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'TACTICAL' SS-20 A COUNTERMEASURE TO EARLIER NATO MODERNIZATION

LD191551 Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 45 Signed to Press 10 Nov 79 p 8 LD

[Nikolay Kuznetsov article: "Now It Is Up to the West"]

[Excerpts] "The proposal we put forward in the Berlin speech," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said in reply to a question from a PRAVDA correspondent, "aims to bring closer to solution a whole range of problems relating to military detente and arms limitation on the European Continent. The initial reaction to the proposal shows that it has been properly understood by all who value peace and security in Europe. At the same time, of course, it was not to the liking of those who would like to bring about a further escalation of the arms race on the European Continent, especially in the sphere of medium-range nuclear devices."

NATO Secretary General J. Luns was among those who found our proposal particularly unpalatable. "The members of our alliance are skeptical on the whole," he said in an interview with NEWSWEEK. While describing the USSR's unilateral decision to withdraw 20,000 of its servicemen and 1,000 tanks from the GDR as "alluring," Luns tried to falsify the real correlation of military forces in Europe in order to play down the importance of the Soviet initiatives and to justify the long-term arms buildup program planned at the NATO Council's Washington session.

Lun's reasoning on the Soviet medium-range missiles--the SS-20 as they are called in the West--does not stand up to criticism. After all, he must know that they came into being after the NATO countries modernized their nuclear-missile potential. But now the West is trying to use the Soviet Union's countermeasure as a pretext for a second "modernization," or, rather, for introducing completely new types of nuclear-missile weapons in the hope of radically altering the correlation of forces between the countries of the Atlantic bloc and the Warsaw Pact.

In actual fact the Soviet medium-range missiles are to a certain extent a counterbalance to the West's nuclear arsenal in Europe, including the U.S. forward-based devices sited on the territory of U.S. allies in West Europe and in the surrounding seas. These devices potentially threaten the territory of the socialist community countries. It is clear from this that the situation would alter dramatically in terms of many parameters if the plans to deploy another 600 new U.S. medium-range missiles in West Europe were to be implemented. Capable of "straddling" the whole of the USSR's European territory, they can only be seen in Moscow as strategic, while the Soviet missiles remain tactical, since their range does not permit them to reach U.S. territory.

Of course, if there were to be a "local conflict" in Europe, a possibility which neither the Pentagon nor NATO headquarters exclude or for the time being want to exclude, this might well suit the U.S. hawks and the military-industrial complex. But the question facing us is this: Can the Soviet Union remain indifferent to the emerging threats to its security, and what can the peoples of Europe "gain" from a continuation of an increasingly ruinous and dangerous arms race?

In order to avert the development of events toward an exacerbation of the situation in Europe and an increase in the tension of the international atmosphere as a whole--which no sober-minded person wants--the USSR proposes that immediately after SALT II is ratified discussions take place, within the framework of talks on SALT III, of the possibility of limiting not only intercontinental but also other types of weapons. Of course, all the factors pertaining to this problem would be taken into account and the principle of equal security for both sides would be strictly observed. In addition, the Soviet Union declares that it is prepared to reduce its present level of medium-range nuclear devices deployed in the western regions of the country on condition that no more U.S. continental-strategic missiles are deployed in West Europe.

The Soviet goodwill gesture is an appeal to a sense of reason, to statesmanship and to commonsense, all of which have already been exhibited to good effect in responsible circles in the West in the recent past and which are now once more needed in order not to lose everything of value that has been achieved and in order to broaden and deepen the process of detente. True political courage lies not in a thirst for rivalry and antagonism but in the ability to pursue a policy of peace and goodneighborliness consistently and unswervingly. The new Soviet initiatives are an example of such courage. It is now up to the West as a whole and each individual country and up to the statesmen who must take crucial decisions.

The disarmament action week which ended recently showed that Europe's peace-loving public is urging the leaders of the NATO countries to respond constructively to the Soviet proposals for strengthening peace and genuine security on the continent.

MELNIKOV DEPLORES WESTERN STANCE AT MBFR TALKS

LD161625 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Nov 79 p 5 LD

[Igor Melnikov "Commentator's Column": "Policy of Military Detente"]

[Text] Vienna--The plenary session held recently at the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe was a unique milestone. It reminded us that exactly 6 years ago, when the talks were getting underway, the socialist countries submitted their joint proposals--a detailed program for progress along the path of military detente on the continent. Their aim was a substantial reduction in armed forces and all types of arms, including nuclear missile arms. The result would be a further improvement in the European political climate and the strengthening of confidence in interstate relations.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist states have invariably made and are making a tremendous effort to insure success at the Vienna talks. Theirs is a constructive stance, and they have repeatedly displayed readiness to heed the opinion of the Western participants in the talks and to take a step toward them in order to find mutually acceptable solutions. This is graphically evidenced by the socialist countries' three important compromise proposals--of 8 June and 30 November 1978 and 28 June this year. The Warsaw Pact countries, proceeding from the principle of equal security, have never attempted to use the talks to achieve one-sided advantages.

The NATO states' position is quite different. They are trying to play a political game in Vienna aimed at modifying in their favor the existing equilibrium of forces in central Europe. They have not so far made an official businesslike reply to the socialist countries' constructive proposals. Instead, the NATO countries' representatives have now been "dragging things out" for a long time on the question of troop strength. The lack of a real desire by the West to reach agreement--this is the reason why the Vienna talks have been fruitless for 6 years. The West's negative stance is still more striking against the background of the new Soviet initiatives set forth in L.I. Brezhnev's Berlin speech and in his reply to PRAVDA's correspondent. In official statements Western spokesmen describe the USSR's new initiatives as "a step in the right direction." Even now, however, they are still not making a businesslike reply.

Meanwhile, international public opinion is increasingly insistently urging the NATO participants in the Vienna talks to take advantage of the favorable opportunity and at last to display good will in return in order to insure that the Vienna talks are marked by success and by concrete steps in the direction of military detente and of reducing the level of military confrontation in the center of the continent.

THATCHER HEADS NATO HAWKS' DRIVE TO SECURE NEW MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

LD191155 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Nov 79 p 5 LD

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov article under the rubric "Political Observer's Notes": "Maiden With a Trident"]

[Text] British coins still depict a maiden holding a trident. She had once personified Britannia, ruler of the waves. But now the familiar symbol can prove an easy prey to political cartoonists by acquiring modern content. It is not merely that the Conservatives' accession to power has been marked by the emergence at the helm of state of the first woman prime minister in the country's history. It is above all a question of Tory policy, particularly in military matters. It is precisely because of that policy that it is quite appropriate nowadays to portray the figure personifying Britannia with a trident in one hand and a tomahawk--that is, a war ax--in the other.

The Conservatives have marked the first 6 months of their rule not only by increasing the military budget (which has reached 10 billion pounds sterling) but also by marking changes in the country's rearmament policy. First of all the Tories brushed aside any arguments about whether there is any sense in Britain retaining its own nuclear forces after its four nuclear-powered Polaris submarines have become obsolete and been scrapped. According to London newspaper reports, the Defense Ministry has decided to replace the four present Polaris submarines with a formation of five nuclear-powered submarines with American Trident missiles equipped with nuclear warheads of British manufacture. The press reports that the government is expeditiously examining this project so that Prime Minister Thatcher can agree the purchase of Tridents with President Carter during her upcoming trip to the United States.

Another change in military policy since the Conservatives' accession to power can be seen with regard to the so-called "Eurostratégic nuclear forces." It is a glaring fact that London is now the most zealous champion of the dangerous plans to deploy new systems of American nuclear-missile weapons in West Europe. The Tories are campaigning for this venture of the NATO "hawks" by their personal example, so to speak, in order to put pressure on the bloc's hesitant members. According to THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, the Conservative government has given its consent to the deployment of land-based American cruise missiles on British territory. It is planned to deploy 160 nuclear-tipped Tomahawk missiles in East Anglia.

And so, Tridents and Tomahawks have appeared in the British Tories' political vocabulary. The occupier of 10 Downing Street has, by all accounts, undertaken to lead the psychological preparation for NATO's December session in Brussels, where the question of deploying new American missiles on European soil will be raised. For the past month the prime minister has been using any platform to lay down the law and intimidate.

Armed millions are line up today on the other side of the Elbe.... The Soviet Union is strengthening its offensive might against Europe.... And so forth in the same vein.

What is the British Government's attitude toward the new Soviet initiatives advanced in Berlin? London prefers to skirt the crux of the matter. The prime minister has declared: "...It is noteworthy that L.I. Brezhnev's statements were made at a big military parade in East Berlin...." Really, at a parade, and not in the Palace of the Republic at the ceremony marking the GDR's 30th anniversary? And--which is far more serious--is there really nothing else in the Soviet proposals that would merit official London's attention?

I recall how, while still leader of the opposition, Margaret Thatcher demonstrated her geographical vision by expressing bewilderment: Why, she said, does the Soviet Union--"that country surrounded by dry land..."--need a modern navy?

Yes, it is easy to suppose that London political cartoonists will not fail to bring the traditional image of the maiden with a trident up to date by adding to that emblem the motto of the recent Conservative Party conference slightly amended and furnished with question marks: "realism? responsibility? competence?"

KORNILOV ASSAILS THATCHER, WEST APPROACH TO ARMS REDUCTIONS

LD200844 Moscow TASS in English 0828 GMT 20 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 20, TASS--The TASS political observer, Yuriy Kornilov, writes: Thus, we are confronted by a clash between two different, more, diametrically opposite political concepts concerning the future of Europe, the destinies of detente: on the one hand, the genuinely peaceable, constructive initiatives of the USSR, which indicates a real way towards a reduction in the numbers of nuclear weapons on the European Continent, and proposes that talks be immediately opened on a reduction of medium-range nuclear means deployed in Europe; on the other hand, the position of certain imperialist quarters of the United States and NATO, that are coming out for the setting up of a new nuclear missile arsenal in Western Europe, made up of 600 American Pershing-II missiles and cruise missiles with an increased range of flight. In doing so the Atlantists, seeking to mislead public opinion, assert that they "are also not against talks", but, don't you see, the "Soviet threat", supposedly hanging over Western Europe, prompts them to adopt such a line: to take a decision on the deployment of new missiles at first and only then to accept talks.

We shall not once again thoroughly dwell on all aspects of these opposite approaches to the problems of military detente in Europe --the broad support, already enlisted by the new Soviet initiatives in the world and the growing anxiety, expressed by the public of various countries in connection with the militaristic plans of Washington and NATO, speak for themselves. But the question arises: What reason, what logic can there be behind the demand to begin by developing a new type of arms, expending tremendous resources, carrying it to Europe and then to negotiate on a reduction of this very weapon?

An unequivocal reply to these questions is given by none other than Britain's Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher who, speaking in the Commons a few days ago, once again stated that London was ready to discuss disarmament problems but from positions of strength.

This is the crux of the matter. The essence of the question is not a mythical "Soviet threat", which does not exist and cannot exist if only because, as the Western leaders themselves acknowledge, there is an approximate parity, a balance of military forces of the sides in Europe. The essence of the question is the desire of certain Western quarters to upset the obtaining parity at any cost, to make sure of a unilateral military advantage before opening talks "from positions of strength", i.e. from such positions, when one side, relying on its military superiority, dictates the terms, while the other side must accept these terms.

Such a turn, judging from everything, would highly please those Western quarters that would like to see European policy developing according to their militaristic schemes. But such a turn is emphatically rejected by all who are against pressure and diktat in policy, who come out for detente, equal rights and goodneighbourhood. It is quite obvious that any Western attempts to change the military-political situation in Europe for their selfish ends will make it imperative for the Soviet Union to strengthen its own security.

The conclusion is clear: To head for a revival of the dangerous imperialist reliance on force in Europe means not to facilitate the current and planned talks on curbing the amrs race, but, on the contrary, to undermine such talks. But, perhaps, this is precisely what Mrs Thatcher and company are pressing for?

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION--QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD170021 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1015 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[International Situation--Questions and Answers program, presented by all-union radio foreign policy commentator Valeriy Kosovan, with TASS political observer Anatoliy Andreyevich Krasikov, APN political observer Gennadiy Ivanovich Gerasimov, and member of the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front of Nicaragua Luis Carrion]

[Excerpts] [Kosovan] Our editorial mailbag today contains an especially large number of letters whose authors are interested in the course of discussion in the West of the new peace initiatives of the Soviet Union. Sergey Ivanovich Popov from Leningrad, Aleksandr Maksimovich Beloborodko from Kharkov, Viktor Nikolayevich Semokhin from Rostov and a number of others ask about the reasons for the delay in the Western powers' official reply to the Soviet proposals. Aleksey Petrovich Germin, a reserve officer from Moscow, asks whether one can expect a positive response to our initiative from the NATO bloc. A number of letters point out the gap between the political course of the Western countries and the hopes of the broad circles of the world public. In our studio is Anatoliy Andreyevich Krasikov, TASS political observer. Anatoliy Andreyevich, I would like to ask you to reply to the questions from our listeners and at the same time to comment on their statements about the policy of the leaders of the western powers.

Responses to Soviet Initiatives

[Krasikov] If one is to talk about the course of discussion of our proposals in the West, then it seems that it must be noted primarily that it is going extremely slowly. Over a month has now passed since the moment when the new and important proposals concerning the solution of a whole complex of questions of military detente in Europe were made in Berlin. We stated that we were ready to sit down at the conference table and to begin discussion of these questions with the West immediately, and I stress immediately.

However, our partners who have long been conducting an extensive propaganda campaign in favor of increasing armaments in the West are clearly in no hurry. They have put forward the thesis: First armaments and only then talks with the Soviet Union. On this subject one Western newspaper wrote rather figuratively: If you put the cart before the horse you can hardly expect to move forward. If one wants to commence arms reduction by increasing them, hardly anyone will believe in the sincerity of aspirations for peace.

Indeed, the USSR and the other socialist countries, have the complete right to express doubts with regard to the position of the NATO countries whose words about peace are clearly at variance with their deeds.

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, from reports in our press it is clear that all of these questions were discussed this week in The Hague at the conference of the so-called NATO nuclear planning group.

[Krasikov] Yes, and this circumstance deserves to be noted. The problems of detente are allocated to none other than the military ministers--the ministers of those countries which are members of the NATO military organization. Naturally, these ministers talk primarily not about how to reduce armaments but about how to set about producing and then deploying new U.S. missiles in West Europe.

The only interesting aspect of this 2-day meeting was, perhaps, the fact that its participants did not manage to adopt unanimous recommendations because in the barracks building where the meeting was held sober voices were heard in addition to instigatory appeals for the start of a new spiral of the arms race. Thus, at the forthcoming session of the NATO Council which is to be held in a little over a month--in exactly a month's time--in Brussels, all the discussions on this question will have to start again literally from zero.

During this time the Americans, relying mainly on the British and West Germans, will, of course, continue their efforts and will try to put pressure on their partners in the alliance. For what purpose? To force them to agree to the implementation of this plan of the Pentagon.

[Kosovan] Judging by press reports Britain is taking an especially negative position.

[Krasikov] Yes, the British Conservative Government has virtually admitted that it is not interested in reducing international tension and in achieving agreement on reducing the level of military confrontation between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty. It has virtually admitted this, although, of course, it does not actually say this in words but demonstrates that under the cover of talks about disarmament it is striving for a new twist of the arms race spiral. This is the conclusion to which one is led by an analysis of the statements made by Prime Minister Thatcher in reply to questions from members of Parliament and by Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, in a recent BBC interview. The essence of the political line of the British Conservatives was expressed in this key sentence by Mrs Thatcher: "If we wish to conduct talks on disarmament, then we should do this from a position of strength and not from a position of weakness."

All this comes at a time when the prime minister is indulging in dreams about the restoration of the position of strength which the West has hopelessly lost, and her foreign secretary is frightening his fellow citizens with the present position of weakness, if one is to believe him. At the same time he reveals what this notorious position of strength is needed for. Calling for NATO to be armed with the new U.S. missiles in addition to the present nuclear forward based means, Lord Carrington states: If we do not make this decision we will be in a position where we can be blackmailed. Well, it must be said that he of course, is talking in terms of the last century and naively supposes that the world has not changed a bit and that now, just as before, it is enough to acquire more weapons to insure the leading role of the West.

In reality, as has frequently been stressed, an approximate equality of forces has arisen between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Our country not only does not blackmail the West, but on the contrary, following the spirit and letter of the Helsinki Final Act, constantly introduces one proposal after another for mutual reductions of armaments with the strict observation of the principle of equal security of the sides.

The British Conservatives, it seems, adhere to a different point of view. In the words of Mrs Thatcher, the policy giving the best insurance against a third world war is to show concern for our own armed forces. You see, armed forces first of all will give good insurances against war.

Well, what is left for us to do? We can only take note of this position of London.

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, you talked of the sober minds in the NATO chorus. Clearly you had in mind the position of the Netherlands.

[Krasikov] The position of the Netherlands on the issue of American arms really merits special mention. The Western press has recognized that this country will be the hardest partner to deal with at the NATO Council session next month. This conclusion has now been reached by many newspapers in the West, after the session of the nuclear planning group in The Hague, and in particular by the London based newspaper, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH. It has been analyzing the results of the recent 2-day debates in the Netherlands Parliament on the same issues. We learn that during these debates the deputies of almost all parties expressed objections to the proposals that the Netherlands, Belgium, Britain, West Germany and Italy deploy these 600 American medium-range missiles. Well, true to say a vote of confidence in the government on this question did not take place, there was no such vote and generally speaking the fate of the government was not at stake. However, one must note that the Christian Democratic Appeal Party--to which the Netherlands minister of defense belongs, who took part later in the session of the nuclear planning group--this party of his demanded that NATO not pledge to deploy this weaponry, even if a decision was made to develop and produce it.

In the words of THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, which I mentioned, the Netherlands Cabinet nonetheless will make a final decision on the question, a decision the newspaper is not predicting. However, this decision will not be made until a few days before the session of the NATO Council. This, as we know, will open on 12 December.

Taking into consideration the might of the protests in the Netherlands against nuclear weaponry--and indeed these protests have unfolded over the whole country and taking part in the demonstrations and meetings of protest are not only the leftwing organizations but also the Dutch church--one can say the government is faced with a serious dilemma. The same British newspaper, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, recognized that if the Netherlands Government agrees with the demands and accepts the deployment on its territory of 50 to 60 cruise missiles, as is being proposed now, then it most likely will be brought down.

In general the position of the government is already weak, since in the lower chamber of parliament, which has only 150 members, the government has a majority of only 2 votes.

[Kosovan] Anatoliy Andreyevich, in talking of the NATO attempts to impose a new spiral in the arms race we usually emphasize the military-political aspects of this issue, while clearly purely economic and commercial aspects are also of significance.

[Krasikov] Yes, and they clearly are not to be left out of the reckoning. This is what was written about this 3 days ago by the Paris newspaper LES ECHOS--the organ of the industrial and financial circles of France: Hidden behind the discussions of the new missiles is a gigantic commercial battle. The production, delivery and deployment in West Europe of a large number of nuclear missiles, quite apart from everything else, is a big deal for American industry. In any case, and I am still citing the words of the newspaper, this deal opens up sufficiently attractive prospects for the transatlantic lobby to mobilize its forces and to do everything to clinch this new and fantastic deal of the century. The newspaper says the operation which is now being prepared by the ringleaders of NATO is one of the most amazing affairs of the present century, which is already rich in sensations of all kinds. All this, LES ECHOS adds, is happening in front of our very eyes and it has occurred to no one to ask why it is happening.

Well, clearly it has occurred to no one in the West because the reasons for this line to which the governments of the Western powers are adhering are perfectly clear for us. Here by the way is some information from the American magazine ARMED FORCES JOURNAL. This is the organ of the military-industrial circles of the United States. This journal recalls that the development of a new generation of mobile medium-range ballistic missiles for deployment in West Europe is the main component in the business of stepping up the NATO bloc's nuclear forces as a whole. According to the journal, the expenditure for the creation of the ballistic missiles will [illegible] $756 million in 1985. During the coming 5 to 7 years about $30 billion dollars will be expended on further strengthening the military potential of NATO.

It is clear that these dollars will end up right in the pockets of the owners of the large companies. On the whole it must be said that the American monopolies are extracting literally record profits as a result of the constantly increasing expenditure on the arms race, and the taxpayers' money is income for the companies. According to information in BUSINESS WEEK, the net profits of the 880 largest American corporations in the third quarter of this year alone totalled almost $28 billion. This is a huge sum and the profits of some of the largest monopolies producing weaponry are literally growing at a gigantic rate. First and foremost these are aerospace companies--the companies producing the missiles. In an atmosphere of such a concentrated extensive period of pressure from the Pentagon--and the pressure is coming of course from the whole military-industrial complex--the U.S. Congress is regularly allotting huge amounts for the creation of the latest armaments systems, including nuclear missiles about which discussion is in progress. According to the information in BUSINESS WEEK--I am quoting this--the net profit of just four companies: General Dynamics, Lockheed, McDonnel Douglas and Northrop Corporation--these are the main subcontractors for the Pentagon--for 9 months of this year totalled $706.5 million. Among the weapons manufacturers dividends were especially increased by the United Technologies Corporation. It specializes in fulfilling the large military orders of the Pentagon. During the period noted its net profit amounted to $236.5 million. All of these figures are given in the journal which I am quoting.

Another American journal, the NEW REPUBLIC, recognizes that the henchmen of the military-industrial complex and other influential forces in the United States--I am quoting--are quite evidently urging an unrestrained arms race which is preventing a radical improvement in the international situation. This is a rather frank admission. All of these circumstances, all these aspects must of course be taken into consideration when we wage our struggle against the arms race, for a reduction in the level of military confrontation, and for the strengthening of peace and the security of peoples.

[Kosovan] Thank you, Anatoliy Andreyevich.

I have in front of me a large number of letters, about 40 of them, whose authors ask the most varied questions concerning the domestic and foreign policy of the United States. We have attempted, esteemed comrade listeners, to group your questions. First, there are questions concerning the preelection campaign in the United States. Second, many listeners are interested in the process of ratification of the Soviet-American SALT II treaty. Finally, we are being asked to speak in more detail about the recent incident at Colorado Springs, when through a computer error a nuclear alert was declared in the United States.

Esteemed comrades, we have acquainted APN political observer Gennadiy Ivanovich Gerasimov with your letters.

On 9 November the Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved a resolution for ratification of the Soviet-American treaty. What happens now? This question is being asked by Sergey Lvovich (Khlynin) from Vladivostok, Ignor Nikolayevich Karnavalov from Novosibirsk, and many others. Over to you, Gennadiy Ivanovich.

U.S. SALT Debate

[Gerasimov] This treaty was discussed in the committee in a very fault-finding way, often in an overtly fault-finding way, since the opponents of the treaty--the proteges of the military-industrial complex--were seeking a pretext for turning it down. One of these opponents, for instance, was Senator John Glenn, the former astronaut, who voted against it. There were in the committee critics who said that SALT II does not go far enough. These are leftwing critics, so to speak. They wanted more limitations, that is, they were outdoing the opponents. One such, critic, for instance, was Senator George McGovern. He said that after long reflection he had decided to vote in favor, since, although in his opinion it is not a big stride, it is a stride in the right direction. Altogether the committee considered 32 amendments. They included so-called amendments which to all intents and purposes would have led to a revision of the accords reached. This would have meant reopening negotiations since there was no Soviet consent for what they were demanding. These were so-called killer amendments and they were proposed in order to have the treaty rejected. However, they did not get through the committee. On the other hand the committee adopted 23 interpretations and clarifications.

Now what happens? For the moment the reports of the majority and minority of this committee with all the arguments are being printed. This matter will be finished by 20 November. According to the Senate rules the treaty can be put forward for initial consideration no earlier than 27 November. But in addition to this the Senate has a mass of other bills and there is a whole list of unfinished business. Thus it is not yet clear how it will proceed in the Senate--whether this question will be permitted to be considered out of turn as a very important one, or whether it will be delayed.

In the Senate itself there is the danger that everything that occurred in the committee could be repeated and once again these so-called killer amendments could be proposed. Thus there will be a stubborn struggle for each vote. In all there are 100 senators in the Senate--2 from each of the 50 states--and ratification requires a two-thirds majority, 67 votes.

[Kosovan] A final question for you, Gennadiy Ivanovich. It concerns the recent incident at Colorado Springs. We are asked to speak about this by Dmitriy Petrovich Korin from Krasnoyarskiy Kray, Viktor Nikolayevich Udaltsev from Moscow, and others. If you please.

Computer Nuclear Error

[Gerasimov] It occurred a week ago, on 9 November. A punched card simulating a missile strike on North America was fed into a computer of the Air Defense Command in Colorado Springs. It was supposed to be a training exercise. But as a result of technical error the early warning system was given a quite real alert signal, and the officers on duty at their posts received information that the United States was being subjected to a nuclear attack. They began to act in accordance with instructions. Planes were put into the air and the alert was sounded at the missile bases. This alarm lasted 6 minutes. Well, 6 minutes later it was sorted out.

This is a dangerous game. The American strategists themselves say that both sides have forces which are not vulnerable to a reply strike. Well, why then make peace dependent on a doubtful computer, on possible technical errors?

The danger of an accidental outbreak of war does exist. There are at least several reasons for this. First, there is more than enough nuclear weaponry. Second, it is ready for use. Third, no precautions can guarantee against such technical accidents as happened at Colorado Springs. Fourth, no precautions can give full guarantees against psychological incidents; a person might understand an order incorrectly, or he might get some sort of idea into his head. There is also the possibility of a political incident, the appearance of some sort of adventurist or new Hitler. Finally, the imperialist policy of the arms race itself is creating an atmosphere beneficial to the accidental outbreak of war.

One recalls that on this subject the Scots have composed a satirical but far from funny song about an officer at an atomic submarine base in Holy Loch. The song goes like this: Having imbibed one day upon the earth a drop or two, at home in his boat he accidentally pressed the button, and a rocket hurtled off over Holy Loch somewhere into the distance, which caused a commotion in many countries of the world. In order for such a thing not to happen it is necessary not to increase but to reduce the level of nuclear confrontation, to struggle for the reduction of nuclear arms, for their removal from the arsenals and for disarmament.

[Kosovan] I have here many letters and I wish to say that in our broadcasts we have often talked of the events in Nicaragua.

We have asked Luis Carrion, member of the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, to answer listeners' questions on the relations between the Nicaraguans and the Soviet Union.

Soviet-Nicaraguan Relations

[Carrion--in Spanish fading to Russian translation] Personally I am struck by the gains in the social and economic sphere and the well-being of the people in the USSR. This has been achieved by the Soviet Union in spite of the huge and dramatic deprivations suffered in the years of the war. Consequently, one especially values what has been achieved by your country and what it has done for mankind. If the Soviet people had not shown heroism and selflessness there probably would have been no possibility for the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution, surrounded as it was by enemies. We have been able to be victorious over the patrimony of imperialism because the Soviet Union exists and because there is a new correlation of forces. We are convinced that the Soviet Union is a noble country which is struggling for peace throughout the world and is supporting the just cause of the national liberation movements. I would like to say that the Soviet Union has a friend in Central America, and that in spite of great distance the Nicaraguan revolution feels the proximity of the Soviet people. Together with you we are opposing imperialism, the enemy of mankind, progress and peace. We are brothers and will always be brothers.

COMMENTARY ON IMPORTANCE OF GENEVA ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE

LD161015 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 4 Nov 79 p 3 LD

[Article by S. Tsukanov, chief of the Internation Economic and Scientific Organizations Department of the State Committee for Science and Technology: "Nature Conservation Is the Business of All Peoples"]

[Text] The USSR and the other socialist states are convinced supporters of broad collective measures to resolve the problem of environmental conservation.

Nature conservation issues have become particularly acute in densely populated Europe--the location of the states with the most highly developed industry--exerting a powerful impact on all components of the environment. The condition of the environment over a considerable part of the continent and also in the United States and Canada is causing serious alarm because of the pollution of rivers and seas and of the air of the major cities. Air pollutants--including the widespread, toxic pollutant sulfur dioxide--discharged into the atmosphere by thermal power stations and industrial enterprises, move freely in the atmosphere over considerable distances and, falling with rain or snow, harm the soil, forests, bodies of water, living organisms and building structures.

It is no accident that the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe signed in Helsinki by the leaders of 33 European states and the United States and Canada devotes a special section to the problem of protecting and improving the environment.

The adoption of the Final Act has given powerful impetus to the further development of international cooperation on the problem of environmental conservation and other problems of vital importance for Europe.

In steering a course toward the consistent fulfillment of the Final Act the Soviet Union, at Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's initiative, suggested holding all-European congresses or interstate conferences on questions of cooperation in the sphere of environmental conservation and the development of transport and power engineering.

This proposal has accepted by the countries which took part in the European conference as very important and timely. Within the framework of the UN European Economic Commission preparation for the all-European forum on environmental conservation has been launched and experts from the European countries and the United States and Canada have set about elaborating drafts of the documents to be adopted at it.

A high-level European conference on the environment will be held in Geneva 13 through 16 November this year. There will be a broad exchange of opinions on the condition of the natural environment in the European region. The countries taking part in the conference will share their experience and outline ways of further cooperating in resolving problems which by common consent are of particularly great importance for the European region.

The movement of air pollutants across borders and waste-free industrial production processes represent such problems.

The organic link between these two problems stems from the fact that it is precisely the development and introduction of waste-free production processes which is seen as the most effective means in the struggle for clean air. The present level of scientific development makes it possible to develop forms of "clean" or waste-free production processes built on the principle of the closed cycle and recycling of natural resources. Thus, as well as preventing damage to the environment, waste-free production processes will promote the more rational use of energy and raw material.

The Geneva conference will also discuss in detail ways of developing cooperation on other important problems, primarily problems like the conservation and rational utilization of water resources, the protection of fauna and flora, and toxic substances and compounds.

The Soviet Union is fully determined to promote the success of the all-European conference on the environment, implement the accords achieved and thus promote the expansion of peaceful cooperation between countries and peoples.

SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE DISCUSSES CYPRUS AT UN SESSION

LD172128 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Excerpts] New York, November 17, TASS--The discussion of the Cyprus question is continuing at the 34th Session of the United Nations General Assembly here. It is noted by the participants in the discussion that the political settlement of the problem of Cyprus, that is now actually partitioned, is being procrastinated as a result of unceasing interference by external forces into the internal affairs of Cypriots.

Acting in circumvention of the known United Nations resolutions, the opponents of a free and independent Cyprus are trying to impose on the people of Cyprus their own "variants" of settling the crisis, it was stated by the Soviet representative V. Petrovskiy. The prime purpose of these manoeuvres is to assert NATO presence in the island and to create yet another military beachhead in the eastern Mediterranean.

The Soviet Union was and remains an exponent of a peaceful solution of the Cyprus problem by the Cypriots themselves with a proper safeguarding of the interests of both the Greek and the Turkish communities. In this connection we consider it pressingly necessary that all foreign interference in the internal affairs of Cyprus should be ended, as well as all attempts to impose on the Cyprus people plans and solutions worked out behind its back and contradicting its interests, stated the Soviet representative.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE FORUM ENDS MEETING IN PARIS

LD180054 Moscow TASS in English 1204 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Excerpts] Paris, November 17, TASS--TASS correspondent Aleksandr Mandrov reports:

The international peace forum completed its work at the UNESCO headquarters. Representatives of the public of many countries took part in the forum to discuss important questions of strengthening peace, disarmament, creation of an effective system of international security and ensuring social progress.

The forum delegates adopted a final communique calling the world public to strive for peace, against the arms race.

The communique points to the need to establish a more just international order, liquidate racism, colonialism and other forms of oppression.

The forum participants declared for a total ban on mass annihilation weapons, for reducing military budgets.

DAYAN'S 'BELLIGERENT' SPEECH IN NEW YORK NO SURPRISE

LD191753 Moscow TASS in English 1726 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 19, TASS--TASS commentor Igor Bereznikovskiy writes:

The former Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan has again made a belligerent speech, this time concerning the events in Iran. Addressing in New York active members of the Zionist organisation "Joint Jewish Appeal", he called on the Pentagon to openly intervene in Iran because that country pursues a policy which is not to the liking of the United States. Dayan proposed, in particular, to use for this military action against Iran the Israel military bases located in the occupied Sinai Peninsula.

The brazen call to arms made by the Israeli general did not cause much surprise. A direct organiser of all of Israel's aggressive actions against Arab countries, a politician with a shady past, a person who, along with other Israeli rulers, embodies the extremist course of that aggressor state, Dayan has always been instrumental in carrying out the American and British imperialist policy in the Middle East.

It was not without his participation in 1957 that cooperation between the former Iranian shah and the Israeli Zionist circles was started. This cooperation developed into an alliance of intelligence services--the American CIA, the Iranian SAVAK and the Israeli Mossad, in which the former shah had particular trust. The Israeli intelligence closely collaborated with the shah's secret police and is directly responsible for the cruel suppression of patriots in Iran during the shah's rule.

It is indicative that calls by Israeli ruling circles to stifle national-liberation movements by way of armed intervention sound every time that anti-imperialist events occur in the Middle East. For instance, when a revolution took place in Iraq in the summer of 1958 Tel Aviv readily picked up threats sounding from the United States and Britain to put an end to the "new Baghdad regime", by means of force and several days later the Israeli military came out in support of the landing of troops by the American Sixth Fleet and of British paratroopers for open interference in the internal affairs of Lebanon and Jordan.

So Dayan's latest provocative "initiative" is by no means a chance one. Israel was and remains a base of imperialism in the Middle East.

ALI AGA STATES IRANIAN CITIZENS IN U.S. 'BEING HOUNDED'

LD192012 Moscow TASS in English 1910 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Excerpts] New York, November 19, TASS--Iran's position in the question of hostages was outlined on television by Iran's charges d'affaires ad interim in the United States Ali Aga. He said that a carefully orchestrated anti-Iranian campaign was now being conducted in the United States. When staying in the United States and having tremendous funds and the support of many influential persons the shah can undertake effective actions against the Iranian revolution. "We have information", the Iranian diplomat noted, "that lately 200 million dollars were paid out from the shah's own funds to SAVAK agents who continue to operate in Iran."

He stressed that Iranian citizens in the United States are being hounded and that they are being insulted not only by individual Americans but also by officials. Ali Aga said that the present crisis in American-Iranian relations could be ended by extraditing the shah to Iran and by giving back to the Iranian people the money that was plundered by the shah.

BAKER'S CLAIM OF SOVIET 'FANNING UP' IRAN SITUATION REPORTED

LD191740 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, November 19, TASS--TASS political commentator Igor Orlov writes:

With ill intent and totally groundlessly organs of American propaganda, that are unscrupulous in their choice of means, are trying to ascribe to the Soviet Union some sort of "designs" in connection with the aggravation of Iranian-American relations. Even some politicians find themselves influenced by such concoctions. An example of this is presented by the latest statement by Senator Howard Baker. Speaking in Texas, he repeated the groundless contentions that the USSR is "fanning up" the situation in Iran.

It is hard to believe, of course, that the senator, who even aspires for the post of presidential candidate of the Republican Party, is unable to see the position taken by the Soviet Union and the Soviet mass media in the Iranian-American dispute. The more so, and this has already been said, that it is enough to read the Soviet press on this subject to see for oneself that it covers the events objectively. The Soviet mass media shows without bias the factual aspect of the events and informs readers with the viewpoints of both sides.

There is no reason to doubt also that such an experienced politician as Senator Baker is well aware just as others in the United States, that the Soviet Union scrupulously observes the norms and principles of international law which in the USSR's firm conviction apply to any situation.

What, then, prompted the senator's statement, his attempts to ascribe to the USSR "incendiary" motivations? The obvious purpose of his statement was to confuse the public. It is difficult to drive away the thought that this is being done for some purely self-seeking aims that have nothing in common with concern for truth.

POST CITED ON KISSINGER'S ATTEMPTS TO ALLOW SHAH INTO U.S.

LD192318 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1830 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Washington, 19 Nov, TASS--The Washington POST has published a report which says that former U.S. Secretary of State H. Kissinger and J. Rockefeller, chairman of the board of Chase Manhattan Bank, one of the major banks in the United States, "from January of this year have campaigned intensively to allow the former shah of Iran to settle in one of his many estates in the United States." "Kissinger," the paper writes, "spoke about this with President Carter and Brzezinski, his national security aide, and met with Secretary of State C. Vance."

However the State Department, the Washington POST points out, warned against this beforehand. Its experts warned that the Iranians might seize U.S. hostages and hold them in exchange for the shah if the latter turned up in the United States.

The experts' opinion was summed up by D. Newsom, under secretary of state for political affairs, who categorically opposed permission for the shah to enter the United States. This recommendation was passed to Vance, who sent it on to the White House. However, the paper continues, Kissinger and Rockefeller continued to exert pressure on the administration to give a warm welcome to the shah.

The Washington POST continues: "An eminent representative of the State Department accused Kissinger and Rockefeller of exacerbating the present American-Iranian crisis." "For a year they have been pressing us to bring the shah to the United States," the paper quotes one such representative as saying. "Now the shah is here and all our worst fears are being realized."

What is the reason for Kissinger and Rockefeller being so deeply devoted to the shah? To this question, the paper replies: "Money." Long before Kissinger entered the Nixon administration, the paper writes, he was a paid consultant for the Rockefeller brothers, and is now on their payroll again. The Rockefellers in turn had close financial ties with the shah. The Chase Manhattan Bank always had the lion's share of all the shah's banking operations; the shah personally issued an instruction to the Iranian National Oil Company to put all oil sales through the Rockefellers' bank alone.

Citing banking sources in New York and Paris, the Washington POST reports: "The shah fled, taking with him the incredible sum of $25 billion, which he controls through a complex network of corporation funds and bank accounts. Rockerfeller and Kissinger consult the shah on how and in what to invest these astounding riches."

DROP IN DOLLAR VALUE LINKED WITH IRANIAN EVENTS

LD192130 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1754 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Viktor Levin and Andrey Ptashnikov]

[Text] A considerable drop in the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar was recorded in the money markets of the capitalist countries today. A REUTER correspondent, reporting on the situation in the money markets, quotes from a table which shows that the dollar rate has fallen in Frankfurt, Zurich, Paris, Amsterdam, Milan, London and Tokyo. In other words, the U.S. currency is falling rapidly in value everywhere. Against the British pound, the dollar has dropped two pennies; against the French france, two and a half centimes; and against the Deutsch mark, one pfennig.

As is obvious from statements by financial experts, the present bout of currency fever originates from two events. First, the rumors of Iran's intention in future not to accept U.S. dollars in payment for oil; and second, the decision by U.S. President Carter to freeze Iranian assets in U.S. banks. But note, Iran has not yet mentioned anywhere officially that it refuses payment in dollars for oil. The appearance of rumors alone that such a decision is possible, however, instantaneously gave rise to alarm on the money markets. Truly, this fact is worthy of attention, for it indicates that only the slightest puff of wind is needed for the money markets to show the symptoms of a severe cold.

The London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH reminds its readers that the seven major Near East oil producing countries have accumulated $150 billion, and if they follow Iran's intention to withdraw all their foreign currency reserves from U.S. banks, this would have catastrophic consequences, both for the U.S. dollar and for the state of the West's economy as a whole, according to the SUNDAY TELEGRAPH. The report that U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Miller starts a visit tomorrow to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates is uniformly seen as a hasty attempt by Washington to prevent such a development taking place.

SOVIET DELEGATION MEETS WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

LD170000 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0833 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Washington, 16 November, TASS--The members of the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by S.F. Medunov, member of the Commission for Legislative Proposals of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet and first secretary of Krasnodarskiy Kraykom of the CPSU, who are staying here at the invitation of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, met with the members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives. The sides exchanged views on questions of Soviet-American relations and also on international problems of mutual interest. The Soviet peace initiatives, put forward by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in his speech in Berlin, were at the center of the discussion.

The delegation met with J. Williamson, acting U.S. secretary of agriculture, and had a conversation with M. Shulman, special adviser to the U.S. State Department.

J. Brademas, Democratic majority whip in the House of Representatives, in a conversation with a TASS correspondent, described the Soviet delegation's visit as extremely useful and positive. He expressed the hope that links between the U.S. Congress and the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the exchange of delegations, will continue as they are useful to both sides.

WHITE HOUSE APPROVES ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR SPACE SHUTTLE

LD152136 Moscow TASS in English 2051 GMT 15 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Washington, November 15, TASS--The White House has endorsed the NASA request for additional funds to build the first space shuttle laboratory. This was reported by NASA administrator Robert Frosch after his meeting with President Carter, during which the President received a detailed report on the progress of the implementation of the program. The talk between the President and the NASA administrator was held following the White House decision to place under its direct control the shuttle program which runs into numerous financial and engineering problems. A whole series of technical difficulties resulted in a considerable increase in the cost of the program and forced NASA to change the initial time-table of the program which, as it is, is over one year late.

Jimmy Carter expressed support to the program, though the NASA administrator said that the amount of new allocations to build the shuttle have not yet been decided. The ASSOCIATED PRESS points out that the program needs an additional 300-500 million dollars.

The generosity of the administration, writes the press, is explained to a considerable degree by the wish of the Pentagon to utilise the shuttle for its purposes. The plans by the Defence Department were, in fact, confirmed by Robert Frosch himself who said that the President is interested in the possibility of using the shuttle for national defence.

The U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT and other American press writes that the Pentagon is planning to use the shuttle for launching military satellites and for other military purposes.

PART OF U.S. 'QUICK REACTION CORPS' TO BE SENT TO S. KOREA

LD180020 Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Text] New York, November 17, TASS--A special landing unit of the U.S. Armed Forces is in training at the Air Force Base of Andersen on Guam Island before being sent to South Korea, a Pentagon spokesman said today.

This unit is an integral part of the "quick reaction corps" which is being set up to be used as a tool for implementing U.S. imperialist plans in various regions of the world.

The training of the landing unit for dispatch into South Korea attests to the intentions of the United States to continue to exercise full control over the situation in that country which is an important strategic stronghold of the American military in Southeast Asia.

It is noteworthy that the American troops will be moved at a time when preparations are being conducted in South Korea for electing the country's temporary president.

ECONOMIC CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN U.S, JAPAN NOTED

LD172336 Moscow TASS in English 1607 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Paris, November 17, TASS--It was announced in the Japanese capital on Friday that a Japanese-American group of specialists was set up to elaborate measures on preventing the growth of economic contradictions between the two countries into political contradictions. The decision to create such a group, AFP agency reports, was taken last May by President James Carter and Japanese Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira.

The creation of the group attests to the fact that differences in the field of trade between the United States and Japan became so acute that they started affecting inter-state relations. Frictions in relations between Washington and Tokyo are caused mainly by the chronic and large-scale deficit of the United States in its trade with Japan. It reached 11.6 billion dollars last year. In the first eight months of this year it reached 5.3 billion dollars.

With a view to overcoming the deficit of trade, the United States is exerting strong pressure on Japan demanding bigger contracts with U.S. firms for the delivery of various equipment, cutting of trade tariffs and reduction of Japanese exports to the United States.

At the same time, pursuing its political and military-strategic purposes in the Far East and Southeast Asia, Washington is trying to act in alliance with Japan. Taking this into account, Japan does not wish to make concessions to the American partner in the trade economic field.

JAPANESE-SOVIET GOVERNORS MEET IN TOKYO

OW181106 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 0830 GMT 17 Nov 79 OW

[Tokyo dispatch by correspondent Vladimir Tsvetov on Ninth Meeting of Japan-Soviet Governors held 16 November in Tokyo]

[Excerpts] The Soviet delegation to the meeting of Japan-Soviet governors was comprised of eight oblast governors and led by Moscow Oblast Governor Nikolay Kozlov. From the Japanese side, governors or lieutenant governors of 17 prefectures and Tokyo, Kyoto and Hokkaido participated in the meeting.

The 11-year history of the Japan-Soviet gubernatorial council shows that it is an appropriate form of contact between the two countries that excellently supplements other routes of Soviet-Japanese exchange.

The exchanges that are extensively developing between administrative organizations of Soviet oblasts and Japanese prefectures reflect the zeal of the Soviet and Japanese peoples toward mutual understanding and (?long-standing) reciprocal cooperation.

The agenda of the governors meeting has two basic questions: to further develop [words indistinct] and to expand commercial and economic exchanges between Japan and the Soviet Union. The Soviet delegation pointed out that [words indistinct] to develop all-round exchanges with Japan, including cultural and economic exchanges, is not influenced by the situation of [word indistinct], but is constant.

Moscow Oblast Governor Kozlov, who headed the delegation, said that the Soviet position is clearly (?defined) by the CPSU Central Committee General Secretary and Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman Brezhnev. Chairman Brezhnev said: We want to [words indistinct] with Japan on the basis of good-neighborly cooperation and reciprocity. The Soviet Union had and has no other thought than that about Japan.

The Soviet delegation called the Japanese participants' attention to the fact that the draft treaty of good neighborliness and cooperation proposed by the Soviet Union includes [words indistinct].

In his remarks, Kanagawa Prefecture Governor (Tetsuji Nagasu) called Japan and the Soviet Union the closest neighboring countries and said that the development and strengthening of friendly relations between the two countries are the most important tasks facing the participants in the governors meeting.

He stressed that peaceful and friendly relations between Japan and the Soviet Union are prerequisites to peave in Asia and the rest of the world and to progress and prosperity of mankind. However, parliamentary Vice Foreign Minister Matsumoto's opening speech was contradictory to the remarks by the participants in the Japan-Soviet governors meeting. Matsumoto reiterated Japan's demand for the return of Soviet territories, which the Soviet Union rejected once and for all as a totally groundless demand.

The first remarks by Vice Foreign Minister Matsumoto since the formation of a new cabinet dealt with the question of Japanese-Soviet relations and included interference in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union. Matsumoto tried to support [words indistinct] in the Kuril Islands, Soviet territories.

In the past 11 years, the exchanges between Japanese prefectures and Soviet oblasts have been consolidated so firmly that no one can break them. The holding of the ninth meeting of Japan-Soviet governors proved this.

JAPANESE-SOVIET FISHERY TALKS OPEN IN MOSCOW

OW190645 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 16 Nov 79 OW

[Report by correspondent Gorshkov on second meeting of the Soviet-Japan Fishery Committee which opened in Moscow 15 November]

[Text] The Soviet people always pay attention to and have great interest in fishery talks between the Soviet Union and Japan.

This is quite natural in view of the fact that fishery plays an important role in feeding the Soviet people. Needless to say, fishery is an important economic factor in the Soviet Union as in Japan.

The Soviet people received the report on the second meeting of the Soviet-Japan Fishery Committee with great interest. A number of Soviet and Japanese reporters were present at the opening ceremony and the Soviet central television network brought in a television camera.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Zaytsev, head of the Soviet delegation and a councilor at the Soviet Ministry of the Fish Industry, said:

It is a well-known fact that the Soviet Union and Japan have a long history in their relations in the fishery field. (?Underlying) this relationship are realism, good will and a consideration for each other's interests. For more than 2 years, we [words indistinct], created by the establishment of 200-mile economic zones and exclusive fishing areas.

This new situation created in the world's fishing grounds was reflected in the fishery technical cooperation agreement concluded in 1978 between the two countries. The principles of realism, good will and consideration of each other's interests were unanimously confirmed at the first meeting of the Soviet-Japan Fishery Committee [words indistinct].

I would like to (?note) that a great result has been produced since the first meeting in scientific and technological cooperation in the fishery field. This makes it possible to markedly expand and develop the exchange between the two countries in accordance with the principle of good neighborliness and reciprocity.

I firmly believe that the second meeting of the Soviet-Japan Fishery Committee will help further strengthen the endeavors of the two countries for scientific and technological cooperation in the reproduction and rational utilization of marine resources. This will insure the preservation and propagation of fishery resources for the sake of the two peoples.

Meanwhile, Seiji Mori, head of the Japanese delegation and director of the Japanese Fishery Agency, said: [begin recording] For many years Japan and the Soviet Union, the two major fishing nations of the world, have been gaining remarkable results in the preservation and rational utilization of fishery resources in the Northwest Pacific with the spirit of understanding and respecting each other. Through this, the two countries have been contributing to (?consolidating) the amicable and friendly relations between Japan and the Soviet Union. [end recording]

Today, participants in the Soviet-Japan Fishery Committee meeting will [words indistinct] the marine resources situation in the Northwest Pacific and other questions [word indistinct], divided into three working groups.

PRAVDA DISCUSSES SECOND STAGE OF AFGHAN LAND REFORM

LD201025 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Nov 79 p 5 LD

[Leonid Mironov "Commentator's Column": "Steps Toward Reform"]

[Excerpt] The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has announced the completion of the first stage of land reforms--the most radical measure taken by the revolutionary powers, which affects the interests of the overwhelming mass of the Afghan working people.

To date, according to data issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform over 665,000 hectares of land have been reallocated among nearly 300,000 peasant families who for the first time have second owners of their own plots of land.

Prior to the April revolution, extensive feudal land ownership and landlessness or shortage of land by the majority of the peasant mass were characteristic of Afghanistan. The introduction of land reforms signalled an end to the feudal order. It entailed changes in various spheres of life of the Afghan people. Thus, following the revolution mutual insurance offices for the peasants were organized and began work. At present there are nearly 2,000 such offices in the country, which unite over half a million peasant families. Cooperative organizations are extensively encouraged, the quantity of which has exceeded 1,000.

The content of the second and final stage of land reform, which the country is now undertaking, includes a series of measures directed at the complete eradication of feudal attitudes in the village, the distribution of land to peasants which have not yet received any and nomads in need of land. The second stage envisages the creation of a foundation for a changeover in the future to extensive cooperation among peasant farms and the organization of state farms.

The practical implementation of land reform by the Government of Afghanistan has led to a sharp escalation in the class struggle in the Afghan village. Counterrevolutionary forces in a number of provinces are resorting to violence, terrorizing peasants and murdering individual specialists who are carrying out reforms, with the aim of not allowing the eradication of the feudal order. The process of further progressive changes in Afghanistan is to a large extent connected because of this with bringing land reforms to a conclusion.

The leaders of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan express the conviction that the Afghan people will be able to defend their revolutionary gains and land reform.

BEIJING'S BORDER VIOLATIONS AGAINST SRV CONDEMNED

OW161203 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 15 Nov 79 OW

[Report by Hanoi correspondent Krichevskiy]

[Text] The situation is very tense on the China-Vietnam borders. The Chinese side is bringing things to the brink of war. Since the beginning of November, Chinese troops have frequently intruded up to 20 km into Vietnam's territory in Hoang Lien Son, Cao Bang, and Ha Tuyen provinces. China's planes and warships have violated Vietnam's skies and territorial waters.

China has been causing these incidents over a long period. According to recent data published by Hanoi, Chinese troops shelled Vietnam's border areas on more than 550 occasions between 16 March and 31 October, leaving 83 Vietnamese residents dead and hundreds wounded and causing great material loss to the general populace. Moreover, when withdrawing after border violations, those Chinese troops took thousands of Vietnamese farmers with them to China.

In addition to these activities, Beijing is steadily increasing its troops and positions in the areas bordering Vietnam. China has 15 divisions assembled in the immediate areas adjoining Vietnam and 6 corps deployed along the border zone. Also, many Chinese naval ships have assembled close to Vietnam's territorial waters. Beijing has constantly made provocative statements that a new lesson should be taught to Vietnam and that China will give several more lessons to Vietnam when necessary.

Beijing's maneuvers to increase tension on its Vietnamese border is not the only example of its expansionist policies toward the whole of Southeast Asia. Using every means available, Beijing is blocking Kampuchea's peaceful rehabilitation and making outrageous attempts to interfere in Laos' internal affairs. Those activities are also aimed at reaching the same expansionist goal. The Beijing hegemonist is plotting to force some Southeast Asian countries to follow its own policies, taking advantage of their ruling cliques who do not fully realize the future dangers which these policies invite. This maneuver by Beijing is receiving U.S. support and that of other imperialist forces scheming to aggravate the Southeast Asian situation.

The fact that Beijing and Washington have recently been carrying out conciliatory policies toward a number of countries affiliated with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) deserves attention. Through those policies, Beijing and Washington are pressuring them to be hostile against Vietnam. Beijing and Washington are maneuvering to use those ASEAN countries to hamper efforts being made to establish peace and goodneighborliness in Southeast Asia--an end which is counter to the interests of the ASEAN countries.

USTINOV RECEIVES VIETNAMESE DEFENSE MINISTER IN MOSCOW

OW181621 Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 18 Nov 79 OW

[Text] On 17 November, Marshal Ustinov, a member of the CPSU Central Committee Political Bureau and the USSR defense minister, received Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, a member of the VCP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice premier and the SRV defense minister who had stopped over in Moscow on his way home. The two comrades had a cordial conversation and discussed problems of mutual concern.

Present at the meeting were Marshal Ogarkov, chief of the general staff of the Soviet Armed Forces and first deputy minister of defense, and Marshal Sokolov, first deputy minister of defense. Also present was Comrade Ta Huu Canh, Vietnam's charge d'affairs ad interim in the USSR.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON PONOMAREV VISIT TO ITALY

Speech on SALT, Euromissiles

LD191353 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[Correspondent and TASS report: "In the Interests of Detente, in the Interests of the Peoples of the World"]

[Text] Rome, 17 November--The official visit by a delegation of the foreign affairs commissions of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by B. N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Foreign Affairs Commission, is at the center of the attention of the Italian press, radio and television.

The first meeting between the Soviet parliamentary delegation and a delegation of the Italian Parliament Chamber of Deputies Foreign Affairs Commission took place today.

Opening the session, G. Andreotti, chairman of the Chamber of Deputies Foreign Affairs Commission, expressed the wish that the exchange of opinions which has begun between Soviet and Italian parliamentarians would promote the strengthening of friendship between the two countries and the clarification of their positions on various problems.

G. Andreotti described the main directions of Italy's foreign policy and the state of its relations with other states. In this connection he particularly noted the constant expansion in economic and trade ties with the Soviet Union. Effective cooperation between the two countries, G. Andreotti said, also takes place in the sphere of culture. Cooperation in the political sphere is particularly important, he stressed, and this was reflected in the protocol on consultations, signed in 1972. G. Andreotti came out in favor of the further expansion of Italian-Soviet cooperation.

The chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission gave a positive evaluation of the results of the Helsinki conference on security and cooperation and stressed that West European countries have reacted with interests to the new Soviet proposals made by L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in Berlin.

G. Andreotti stressed in his speech that disarmament is the vital problem of today, affecting all countries, and indicated the need to persistently seek ways and means of resolving it. In his opinion the equilibrium of forces must be the basis for a mutual reduction in military potential. It is necessary, he stated, to discuss concretely the problems of the equilibrium of forces and arms reduction in the interests of detente.

G. Andreotti advocated expanding contacts between Soviet and Italian parliamentarians.

A speech was then delivered by B. N. Ponomarev, the head of the Soviet delegation. He noted that the development of ties between different countries' parliamentarians and the growing desire to use these ties to expand and deepen the exchange of opinions on the most urgent questions, above all on questions of war and peace, are among the beneficial results of detente. At the same time they are also an instrument of strengthening detente.

It would be no exaggeration to say that bilateral Soviet-Italian relations are developing successfully and are stable in nature. In the political sphere they have been formulated in a number of documents which enshrined our countries' adherence to the cause of relaxation of tension. In the economic sphere our relations are highly dynamic. This is indicated by the fact that in 10 years our trade turnover has quadrupled. Soviet-Italian industrial cooperation is developing on a compensation basis in many cases. The scope of Soviet-Italian ties in the sphere of culture is very considerable. Here we have good traditions, rooted far in the past, which should be developed.

At the same time, in our view, we still have great reserves and potential. Italy and the USSR could cooperate more actively in the cause of consolidating detente. Italy's contribution to consolidating European peace and to the struggle against the arms race could be more weighty.

The Soviet leadership, headed by L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, B. N. Ponomarev stressed, is firmly following a line of further developing and deepening the whole range of bilateral ties. The Soviet Union firmly intends to build the development of Soviet-Italian relations in such a way that it is not directed against any other country. We consider it very important and positive that Italian leaders, irrespective of short-term foreign and domestic changes, support the stable development of relations between the USSR and Italy.

In our time the question of what direction Europe and the whole world will take is essentially being resolved: whether along the path of the further establishment of detente and the principles of peaceful coexistence in relations between states, or whether Europe and the whole world will turn back, permit the buildup of arms and thereby intensify the danger of war.

The main condition not only of the further deepening of detente, but of its very existence is its extension to the military sphere.

The Soviet Union is convinced that the development of events in the international arena in the current decade confirms that any problems which are still a burden on East-West relations can be successfully resolved. But to this end it is necessary first of all to cut short any further spiralling of the arms race. Here it must be said that every state, every people can and must have their weighty say and make their contribution to the cause of delivering mankind from war and from the exhausting preparations for it.

The positive shifts which have been achieved, above all in Europe, and the steps which have been taken to restrain the arms race demonstrate for all to see that the cause of strengthening peace and embarking on real disarmament is by no means an unpromising Utopia and that powerful factors are operating in favor of this course of events.

The SALT II treaty signed in Vienna is a thoroughly considered, just balance of interests insuring the implementation of the principles of equality and identical security of the sides. The treaty's entry into force would undoubtedly be both an important stage in military detente and a contribution to further deepening political detente. It would open up the path toward the successful holding of a new stage of talks on strategic arms limitation and on all the components of the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries' nuclear might.

However, attempts have still not ceased in the United States to make use of all kinds of stipulations and amendments to unilaterally "rectify" the treaty, that is, to undermine the basis of mutual interests which the treaty expresses. We believe that the SALT II treaty can only enter into force in the form in which it was signed in Vienna. Attempts to change it unilaterally are dangerous not only to the USSR and the United States, but to the destiny of world peace.

A really paradoxical situation has arisen: The signing of the treaty, as is indicated, in particular, by the UN General Assembly debates, is welcomed by the governments of practically all countries (with the exception, in point of fact, of China alone), yet meanwhile its destiny, and at the same time the interests of the cause of strengthening world peace, are being toyed with by the votes of a few American senators.

There are many other examples of the recent notable stepping up of the activity of forces hostile to peace, B. N. Ponomarev stressed. In this connection mention must be made of today's central problem--U.S. and NATO plans on the deployment of new American nuclear missile weapon systems in a number of West European countries, including Italy.

In conditions where a definite equilibrium of forces has emerged in the sphere of strategic intercontinental weapons, the United States is trying to "legalize" its "right" to achieve military superiority. After all, we cannot fail to see behind the plans for deploying new U.S. missiles in Western Europe the intention of creating an arsenal of missile facilities for a first strike which would be directed against the Soviet Union. Nor can we fail to see the desire to make use of the advantages associated with the more rapid delivery of nuclear facilities from West European bases: The flight time of such a missile is only 4 minutes. There is probably no need to provide proof of how in this context the risk of nuclear confrontation grows and in particular the risk associated with the possibility of the accidental launching of a missile.

We cannot fail to see that in the event of the adoption of the decision the United States is insisting on, a qualitatively new military-political situation will emerge, above all because NATO--in the event of the absence of retaliatory measures on our side--will achieve real military superiority in Europe. But it is after all quite obvious that such an attempt will confront the Soviet Union with the necessity of strengthening its own security. The USSR and its allies cannot sit idly by, looking on dispassionately, while the opposing military grouping strengthens its positions and increases the threat to our countries and to our people's peaceful labor.

It is clear that in the event of the implementation of these plans the political climate for talks, both under way and projected, on questions of limiting and subsequently reducing arms will be seriously damaged. Finally, the very appearance of a fundamentally new type of weapon, distinguished by the fact that it is very difficult to monitor, would seriously exacerbate instability in the military situation and step up the risk of nuclear war.

The race for arms of this kind swallows up the most colossal resources, undermines healthy economic development and places a heavy burden on the shoulders of hundreds of millions of people. It must be clear to everyone that things cannot go on like that for long. A few more spirals, and the arms race is capable not only of undermining everything that has been achieved in the sphere of political detente in the seventies, but of getting out of all control and bringing mankind to a dangerous brink beyond which lies the danger of the outbreak of nuclear missile war with all its consequences.

Another course--diametrically opposite--is represented by the policy of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries. The essence of this course was clearly expressed by L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. In his speech in Berlin. "In Europe, as in all other regions of the world," he said, "we want peace, lasting peace. This is the absolute foundation and backbone of our foreign policy. We pursue this policy consistently and unswervingly."

The action program in defense of detente and the European peoples' security formulated by L. I. Brezhnev in his Berlin speech this October and later substantially amplified in his answer to a PRAVDA correspondent's question on 6 November is a new manifestation of the Soviet Union's inviolable consistency in the struggle for peace. It is essentially a question of a real platform for consolidating peace in Europe.

This platform talks of perfectly specific proposals covering every aspect of military detente in Europe (nuclear arms reduction, conventional arms reduction, military confidence-building measures). The principled basis of our proposals is the Final Act of the Helsinki all-European conference, which was approved by all European countries, including Italy.

L. I. Brezhnev suggested immediate talks as the method of implementing these proposals. Instead of sharpening knives [for use] against one another--that is, endlessly building up nuclear missile weapons, as the United States and NATO are doing--the Soviet Union proposes sitting down at the negotiating table.

The thought set forth by L. I. Brezhnev in his answer to the PRAVDA correspondent should be particularly highlighted: During the talks and still more before they begin it is important not to take hasty action that might complicate the situation and impede the achievement of positive results. The Soviet Union is prepared to act in precisely that way.

The USSR's new proposals provide a way out of the insane, senseless arms buildup. They are aimed at creating a favorable atmosphere for starting really effective talks on limiting and reducing nuclear missiles weapons, primarily in Europe, at providing the stimulus for measures and proposals in response to working toward the lessening of military confrontation and the lowering of arms levels with strict observance of the principle of the sides' equal security.

The Soviet platform of peace for Europe opens up a real prospect of peaceful development for all the continent's peoples. The implementation of these proposals would not be detrimental to any country or people.

The situation now prevailing is that on the one side--the side of the USSR and its allies--important steps have been taken; as yet there is no response to these steps from the other side. During the current discussion of the Soviet proposals on the one hand it is admitted that on the whole they are useful and even constructive. But on the other hand everything possible is being done not only to belittle the importance of these proposals in the public's eyes but also to directly distort their essence and aims. This can only be regarded as an attempt to dodge serious discussion of the paths of military detente in Europe.

The West sometimes urges as follows: It is necessary to decide to deploy the new missiles and only then to start talks with the Soviet Union. But what would be the point of first creating new types of weapons at the cost of tremendous funds, bringing them to Europe--and then negotiating? That is a very risky approach, for it represents an attempt to revive the position-of-strength policy and to speak the language of cold war with us.

The "all-justifying" thesis designed to whitewash the provoking of a new spiral in the arms race is the grating old thesis of the "Soviet military threat." Literally everything the Soviet Union does is presented to public opinion as evidence of the USSR's "menacing intentions." The "Soviet threat" has been detected even in the latest Soviet initiatives aimed at ending the arms race. When talk turns to the Soviet Union's armed forces and military doctrine, a certain section of the mass media simply knows no restraint. Fabricated figures are juggled and "facts" conjured up out of thin air are used.

The organizers of the campaign about the "Soviet military threat" are themselves perfectly well aware that this threat has not existed and does not exist. For when leading NATO figures discuss among themselves the problems of the present correlation of forces they themselves proceed from the fact that there is now an equilibrium of forces, that the Soviet military potential is notable for its defensive nature and the creation by the Soviet Union of particular new weapons systems is merely an answering reaction to corresponding NATO actions.

The Soviet Union is a peace-loving state. All our thoughts are directed toward peaceful building, toward raising the Soviet people's living standard, toward steady headway along the path of peace and socialism. There are in our country no social forces with an interest in the arms race or war; there is no military-industrial complex. Nor do we have any interests that would make us wish to seize foreign territories or countries.

Europe is now faced with a choice. It is our profound conviction that the new Soviet initiatives formulated in L. I. Brezhnev's remarks of 6 October and 6 November and his call to the West for immediate talks create the only acceptable alternative to the growth of military confrontation on the continent. If this call meets with a fitting response, a new situation will be created in Europe whereby no one will lose anything; all countries will only gain. But to achieve this it is necessary to sit down at the negotiating table.

A peculiarity of the present situation is that the resolution of the question of our continent's future depends to a great extent not only on the great powers but also on each European country, each government and parliament, each people. Each NATO country is now called upon to make its contribution to deciding the question whether or not there is to be another stage of the arms race.

We are convinced that Italy too can make its contribution to this and is called upon to do so.

A meeting of participants in the all-European conference is to be held in a year's time in Madrid. The USSR will do everything in its power to insure that this is an appreciable contribution to further strengthening European security and cooperation and serves the cause of detente and of combating the arms race.

Of course, the successful holding of the meeting in Madrid is possible provided all its participants display a constructive businesslike approach to examining the issues on its agenda, and, of course, provided the very climate on the continent is not clouded because Europe, perhaps without wanting this itself, has become the springboard for a new round of the nuclear arms race--a round dangerous above all to Europe. It is within the power of Europeans and all people of good will to prevent this. Talks instead of the arms race--that is what we urge to parliaments, governments and peoples.

In conclusion B.N. Ponomarev said: A great responsibility falls on all of us--representatives of our countries' supreme organs of power--in the prevailing complex situation. We USSR Supreme Soviet deputies are prepared to do everything possible to prove equal to this responsibility. In this area we are prepared to act together with you.

Our proposals are simple and clear: Struggle for peace, not to prepare war; to end the arms race and reduce armaments, not build them up; for negotiation, not confrontation; and for good-neighborly, peaceful relations between our countries and among all European countries.

Meeting with Foreign Minister

LD171604 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Excerpt] Rome, November 17, TASS--The head of the Soviet parliamentary delegation has today met with Italian Foreign Minister F. M. Malfatti and had a talk with him. They discussed questions pertaining to a further development of Soviet-Italian relations and topical international issues.

A meeting of the Soviet delegation was held at the Italy-USSR Society. In the course of the meeting the Soviet delegation spoke about the successes in the development of the Soviet land, the Soviet Union's peace-loving foreign policy and the proposals for the consolidation of peace and struggle against the arms race put forward in Leonid Brezhnev's speeches on October 6 and November 6 this year.

Continuation of Talks

LD191642 Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Rome, November 19, TASS--The delegation of the foreign affairs commissions of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet, now on a visit to Italy, is continuing its negotiations here. The delegation is headed by alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Boris Ponomarev.

The Soviet parliamentary delegation had another meeting today with the delegation of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies of Italy's Parliament, in full body. In the centre of the discussion were topical problems of the present: detente, disarmament, improvement of the political climate in Europe and the whole world. The parliamentarians of the two countries hold that the exchange of opinions between them helps deepen mutual understanding and elucidate their stands. The representatives of higher legislative bodies of the USSR and Italy stressed that disarmament is the pressing problem of the present which concerns all countries and all peoples.

Deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet in their speeches pointed to the principles of the Soviet peaceful foreign policy and emphasised the great significance of the Soviet proposals, which were advanced by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev on October 6, and November 6 1979, but along with this, as was shown by the discussion, there are certain differences in the opinion on ways and means that must be used to achieve the aims of arms reduction and disarmament.

The members of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies of Italy's Parliament positively appraise the results of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. They emphasise in their speeches that West European countries treat with interest the new Soviet proposals, which were made by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev in Berlin.

REPORTAGE ON GROMYKO VISIT TO SPAIN

Talks with Foreign Minister

LD192148 Moscow TASS in English 2125 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Madrid, November 19, TASS--Views on questions of developing relations between the two countries, first of all in the field of political cooperation and also in the economic and cultural fields, were exchanged at the talks that began here today between member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko and Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre.

The ministers also touched on a number of topical problems connected with the need to consolidate the process of detente, end the arms race and also connected with disarmament.

The development of the situation in Europe after the European Conference on Security and Cooperation, in particular, in connection with the forthcoming meeting in Madrid was discussed.

Meeting with Juan Carlos

LD192230 Moscow TASS in English 2150 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Madrid, November 19, TASS--Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko today had a meeting with the Spanish head of state King Juan Carlos.

Questions of bilateral Soviet-Spanish relations and also some international problems were discussed during the conversation that passed in a friendly atmosphere. Both sides expressed striving to further develop and deepen relations between the two countries in the interests of the Soviet and the Spanish peoples and of strengthening European and international security.

Oreja Dinner for Gromyko

LD192300 Moscow TASS in English 2245 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Madrid, November 19, TASS--Spain's Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre today held a dinner in honour of member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, who arrived here on an official visit on Monday at the Spanish Government's invitation.

Marcelino Oreja Aguirre and Andrey Gromyko exchanged speeches.

GROMYKO CONGRATULATES DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER ON APPOINTMENT

LD190959 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Nov 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Good Wishes"]

[Text] In a telegram to Danish Foreign Minister K. Olesen USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs A.A. Gromyko conveyed congratulations and good wishes on his appointment as foreign minister.

In reply telegram K. Olesen expressed cordial gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes.

FRG FACES CHOICE BETWEEN DETENTE, RETURN TO COLD WAR

LD161143 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[Article by PRAVDA special correspondent Yuriy Zhukov under the rubric "The FRG on the Threshold of the Eighties": "1. The Lessons of History"]

[Text] FRG, November--I spent 20 days traveling around the FRG. I went far and wide--from smoky, austere Duesseldorf to colorful and noisy Munich, from sun-drenched, legendary, medieval Lindau, perched comfortably on the shore of the enormous Blue Bodensee, for which the white peaks of the Swiss Alps form a backdrop, to busy Hamburg enmeshed in a dank fall drizzle. I had a multitude of meetings and conversations with statesmen and politicians, with representatives of business circles and with ordinary people.

My impressions are many, varied and often contradictory. But if I were to try to define the basic feeling I came away with from this dynamic and economically powerful country I might perhaps put it as follows: As it comes to the end of such a significant and eventful decade--the seventies--the FRG is peering into the misty future in a state of tension and, on occasion, alarm. What do the eighties hold?

For the FRG the seventies have been a period of changes following two decades of conservative rule and the coming to power of the Social Democrat-led coalition. At the very outset this coalition proclaimed that its policy would develop "under the sign of continuity and renewal," and this compromise formula has naturally had an impact on its often contradictory and inconsistent policy. But this apart, all the people I talked with in the FRG stressed that there have been considerable changes in the seventies, the chief ones being in the foreign policy sphere. The abandonment of the old, stagnant and stubborn, futile dogmas and the abrupt move toward detente have been of indisputable and obvious benefit to the FRG.

Most of the people I spoke with noted the important and truly decisive role in the achievement of these changes played by the persistent and consistent struggle of the Soviet state and, to an enormous extent, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, personally, for the normalization of USSR-FRG relations.

Federal Chancellor H. Schmidt talked to me very respectfully about Leonid Ilich's contribution to the struggle to strengthen detente and cooperation. "Mr Brezhnev," he said, "has devoted his entire life to this struggle and I have faith in the continuity and firmness of the Soviet policy he has elaborated with the aim of strengthening peace." The same things were said by very prominent representatives of business circles and people from the various political parties.

"It took a great deal of effort to switch the course of events into a favorable channel," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said in Bonn on 18 May 1973 during his first state visit to the FRG. "On taking up this task we proceeded on the basis that we should not be constantly dominated by the past and it should not overshadow future prospects. The aim of the Soviet Union's policy is to prevent a repetition of the tragedy of the past. We are convinced that the solution of this task through our joint efforts would be of historic significance."

At the moment no FRG politician dares (openly, at least) to dispute the historic significance of this shift.

On meeting with leading figures from the conservative parties, the Christian Democratic Union [DCU] and Christian Social Union [CSU] I recalled the very heated arguments with them in September 1970, soon after the signing of the celebrated Moscow treaty between the USSR and the FRG which said clearly and succinctly: "The USSR and the FRG unanimously acknowledge the fact that peace in Europe can only be preserved if nobody encroaches on present-day frontiers."

Oh how my interlocutors raged against the treaty, accusing the new FRG leaders who signed it, Brandt and Scheel, of virtually betraying national interests! They were literally infuriated with the treaty's statement that the USSR and the FRG "regard as inviolable now and in the future the borders of all states in Europe as of the day of the signing of the present treaty, including the Oder-Neisse Line, which forms the western border of Poland, and the border between FRG and the GDR."

"We will not allow this treaty to be ratified," one of the more expansive conservative opposition figures told me at the time. "And when we get back in power we will hold new talks and achieve the conclusion of another, better treaty!"

In the meantime, I recall, revanchists were holding demonstrations in the streets of Bonn demanding the restoration of the "reich" within the 1937 borders.

But that was 9 years ago. This time the same expansive interlocutor began his conversation with me by saying that if he and his colleagues returned to power (and they have suffered two election defeats in the past 10 years) then "the eastern treaties will be observed," and the chief thing that must not be overlooked is that "whenever the Russians and Germans have fought it has been bad for them; when they have lived in peace and cooperated it has been good."

It is not, of course, that my interlocutor and his colleagues have changed--many of their reservations, and actions, indicate that basically their views and ambitions remain the same, but new--domestic and foreign political--realities have emerged and established themselves and must be reckoned with. Life itself has shown that the sober and realistic stance adopted by the coalition that came to power in 1969 has opened up for the FRG new opportunities in the world arena and has contributed to the development of detente in international relations and mutually advantageous cooperation with its Eastern neighbors without in any way infringing its interests.

This is why the FRG Foreign Ministry, summing up the 10 years of the ruling social-liberal coalition's foreign policy, stated 22 October: "The Moscow treaty was a turning point in Soviet-West German relations. Its goal--to remove the heavy burden of the past and lay the foundation for fruitful relations--has been attained to a significant extent."

The Moscow treaty, signed 12 August 1970, was the starting point for a fundamental restructuring of the entire edifice of the FRG's relations with its Eastern neighbors. It was followed by treaties with Poland, Czechoslovakia and the GDR. The four-power agreement on West Berlin, involving the USSR, the United States, Britain and France, relieved the chronic tension in this exposed nerve of Europe. The FRG and the GDR were admitted to the United Nations. All this was a substantial contribution to the development of detente and all-European cooperation.

And when, almost 10 years after the Moscow treaty was signed, I met again with those who at that time were backing or opposing its ratification my interlocutors talked about how important it is to preserve, strengthen and consolidate detente and to develop businesslike mutually advantageous cooperation with the USSR on an even wider scale.

Even among the conservative opposition nobody wants a return to the old tension in relations--at least, nobody says this out loud. This is understandable--for the next Bundestag elections are approaching and, as the Hessen Land Prime Minister Holger Boerner told me, "You cannot win the election by opposing the main trend of the population's thinking and the population currently supports mutual trust and peaceful coexistence in Europe."

Nevertheless, when you visit the FRG today you experience a dual sensation. On the one hand, many politicians are expressing great satisfaction with the way the seventies have gone and are hoping that the approaching eighties will bring similar good results. At the same time, the influence of the skillfully staged-managed, stubborn, concentrated and fierce campaign for a reexamination of the "Ostpolitik" and a return to the cold war days is clearly felt.

I mean not only the incessant malicious anti-Soviet activity of the mass media belonging to the enemies of detente which use any pretext to kindle distrust and suspicion. This campaign is joined also by many prominent politicians and even some statesmen who are clearly not heeding the FRG's fundamental national interests. Again and again the choice of main pretext for attempts to reverse the forward movement which started in 1970 falls on the absurd thesis about an imaginary "Soviet threat" which allegedly forces the FRG, in conjunction with the United States and the other NATO allies, to adopt urgent measures to step up the arms race.

But is it not clear that this race, above all the deployment of new American medium-range strategic missiles in the FRG, would be incompatible with the development of peaceful all-European cooperation of whose importance Federal Chancellor Schmidt spoke so persuasively in a recent Hungarian television interview?

It is surely not difficult to see that prospects for the eighties, which could be a new decade of peace in Europe, would be called into question if the FRG were transformed into a launching pad for new American missiles trained on the USSR, and the Soviet Union would have to adopt the requisite additional measures to safeguard its security. What would be the result of the new dangerous twist in the arms race?

Thinking citizens in the FRG are increasingly asking themselves these questions. Heated discussions are breaking out with increasing frequency in political circles, in plant shops and on the streets about how affairs should be managed in the eighties and what the aims should be. The paper STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG stated in this connection: "It is not only politicians and the military who are discussing these matters. Many people in the FRG fear that in an atmosphere of cooling relations between the two great powers the FRG may again become a kind of 'frontline state,' as in the cold war days."

The FRG was a "frontline state" prior to the beginning of the seventies when power was in the hands of "diehard" conservative politicians who had forgotten nothing and learned nothing. Since then a great deal has been done to create a totally different atmosphere in the center of Europe, filling people's hearts with tranquillity, confidence in tomorrow and hope for a better future. And it is perfectly natural that people should increasingly insistently pose the question: Will this positive historical lesson be heeded or will the desire to reverse the development of events triumph?

Naturally there is special interest in this among the FRG circles who, under detente conditions, have done a great deal to establish mutually advantageous relations with the USSR and the other socialist countries and would like to develop these relations even further, this being particularly important for them in the current complex economic situation in the West.

More about this in the next article.

TEN HOSTAGES RELEASED FROM EMBASSY IN TEHRAN

LD200724 Moscow TASS in English 0705 GMT 20 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, November 20, TASS--Four women and six black Americans were released this morning from the U.S. Embassy, which is still occupied by Iranian students, supporters of Ayatollah Khomeyni. Those released have been taken to the airport to be sent out of Iran.

Possibility of Espionage Trial

LD201144 Moscow World Service in English 0900 GMT 20 Nov 79 LD

[Text] According to news agencies, 10 other employees of the American Embassy in Tehran were deported from Iran today. Iranian students who seized the embassy on the 4th of this month are still holding several dozen people as hostages. The students are demanding that the United States extradite the deposed shah guilty of crimes against the people. Ayatollah Khomeyni has said that unless this demand is met the remaining hostages will be tried on a charge of espionage. And according to the Iranian Minister of Trade, Reza Sadr, Iran intends to terminate all economic ties with the United States and not to use the dollar as a currency unit in import transactions.

Meanwhile the United States has begun the deportation of Iranian students from the country. It is preventing a meeting of the Security Council to discuss the Iranian complaint about a threat to the country's security by the United States.

Khomeyni on Release of Hostages

LD191630 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] According to Tehran Radio, Iranian students have released 13 of the hostages held in the American Embassy in Tehran. The students have been holding the embassy, with several dozen hostages, since the 4th of this month. That day there were mass demonstrations in Tehran and other cities to voice indignation with the policies of Washington which allowed the deposed shah to arrive in the United States. Iran insists that the former ruler, guilty of crimes against his people, should be extradited to it. Interviewed by correspondents of American radio and TV companies on Sunday, Ayatollah Khomeyni stressed that the only condition for the release of all Americans held as hostages in the United States Embassy in Tehran is the extradition of the former shah to Iran.

The White House, in an official statement, has welcomed the decision to set free the (?women and black) Americans. At the same time, it insists on the release of all hostages. The statement contains no reply to Iran's main demand, the extradition of the shah.

Meanwhile, the United States continues its campaign of pressure on Iran. The administration has decided to stop the delivery of spare parts for military equipment bought under the shah. There is talk in the United States about ceasing the shipment of grain and other farm produce to Iran. Deportation of Iranians from the country has begun. The import of Iranian oil has been stopped. The House of Representatives has instructed the administration to end military and economic aid to Iran and President Carter has ordered the arrest of all official Iranian assets in American banks and their overseas branches.

As for Iran, the secretary of the Islamic Revolutionary Council, Ayatollah Beheshti, has told a news conference in Tehran that the government will work persistently for the country's complete economic and political independence. According to him the problem of Iranian-American relations is not confined to the question of the shah's extradition. Ayatollah Beheshti does not exclude the possibility of a break-off of diplomatic relations between the two countries unless the United States changes its policy of imposing its domination on Iran.

BANI SADR: IRAN TO BREAK OIL, DOLLAR TIES WITH U.S.

LD192012 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, November 19, TASS--A statement by Bani Sadr, minister of economy and finance, broadcast today by the radio, says that though Iran is not interested in breaking diplomatic relations with the United States, these relations have practically been stopped, and if the former shah is not returned to Iran, Iran will officially sever their relations with the United States.

Speaking about Iran's decision to withdraw its assets from U.S. banks and end future sales of Iranian oil for dollars, Bani Sadr said that Iran has entered a new and important stage of its revolution by starting the liberation from economic dependence. The main task at the moment is to break oil and dollar relations with the United States. That is what we are doing.

Bani Sadr called on other countries to follow suit and reject the dollar as a monetary unit for oil to shake off the domination of the American dollar.

BOVIN: CAMP DAVID ACCORDS ULTIMATELY LEAD TO MIDEAST IMPASSE

LD191725 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Nov 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Political observer A. Bovin article: "Impasse"]

[Text] In the diplomatic history of the 70s there have been many major striking events attesting to victories of political reason and to real steps taken by mankind along the path of easing international tension and peacefully resolving disputes and conflicts among states. But there have also been events of a different kind--events which will remain in people's memory testifying to errors, mistakes and treachery. These undoubtedly include Anwar as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, 19 November 1977.

It is reported that As-Sadat intends to greet the second anniversary of that date with great pomp. Official cries of exultation will certainly be heard from Tel Aviv and Washington. Let them rejoice. There is another way of marking this anniversary--this is to show once again that the way paved from Jerusalem to Camp David leads ultimately into an impasse. Probably nothing illuminates this impasse with such merciless brilliance as the intricate zigzags which "triple diplomacy" is describing around the Palestinian issue.

I will begin with the fact that the active support for As-Sadat's initiative, the transformation of this initiative into the Camp David accord and the persistent attempts to squeeze all involved in the conflict, and the Palestinians above all, into the Camp David "framework" have laid bare the profound internal contradictoriness and duplicity of the principled (if this word is applicable here) foundations of U.S. Near East strategy.

On the one hand, the United States still declares its fidelity to UN Security Council resolutions 242 (of 22 November 1967) and 338 (of 22 October 1973). These resolutions demand the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied territories. There is nothing in these resolutions that would prevent the formation of an independent Palestinian state. The framework of these resolutions is broad enough to be able to objectively evaluate and take account of the positions and interests of all the parties to the conflict and all the states interested in resolving it. Therefore they make it possible to work toward a comprehensive settlement of the Near East conflict.

On the other hand the United States proclaims its fidelity to the Camp David agreements, on which the separate treaty between Egypt and Israel was based. These agreements do not demand the withdrawal of Israel's troops from all the occupied territories. Under cover of "autonomy" for the Palestinians these agreements provide for the consolidation of Israeli control over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip--which makes talk of a Palestinian state pointless. By signing these agreements the United States juridically pledged to look at the situation through the prism of Israeli interests alone.

It is impossible to combine and synthesize the two aforesaid approaches, the two policies. It is necessary to choose. But within the framework of current political practice, under the conditions of the psychological atmosphere which has become established in Washington, what choice can there be? Openly rendering the Security Council resolutions null and void means provoking an explosion in the Arab world and (with a probability of nine to one) losing Arab oil, as well as political influence in the Near East. Openly admitting that the Camp David agreements lead to an impasse means testifying to their own impotence and shortsightedness, provoking a crisis in relations with Israel and exposing the administration to blows from the powerful pro-Israeli forces in the United States.

Hence the casting about [metaniya], the refusal to face facts and the attempts to nonetheless square the Near East circle. In practice it looks like this: To continue verbal support for the UN resolutions while in fact trying to realize the Camp David accord--but (and in this case this "but" is extremely important) with certain amendments. At Camp David the Americans accepted Tel Aviv's concept of "autonomy" ("Beginomy," Tawfiq Ziyad, mayor of Nazareth, said to me) and agreed to admit the PLO to talks. Now, after 6 months of fruitless Israeli-Egyptian wrangling, they seem to be beginning to understand that such conditions doom to failure the search for any compromise--even the most puny, rotten compromise. The Americans have decided to extricate themselves from the Camp David pit which they themselves dug by changing these conditions.

Naturally, it has been necessary to pressure Israel and persuade Begin to display even minimal flexibility. But nothing doing.

Israeli diplomacy on the Palestinian issue can be reduced to three "noes." No to talks with the PLO, no to the withdrawal of troops from captured land and no to the formation of a Palestinian state. "Autonomy" for the Palestinians, as Tel Aviv sees it, is nothing but limited administrative self-government within the confines of the Israeli state. When Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky compared Israel's policy toward the Palestinians with the fascists' racial policy, Begin took umbrage. But what is there to take umbrage at? You have only to visit Israel, walk through the streets of Arab villages and talk with their inhabitants to see for yourself that in Israel Arabs are regarded as the "lowest race" and as "second-class" people with all the ensuing legal and political consequences.

Begin's defiant policy, which runs counter to the elementary norms of the modern sense of justice, is increasing Israel's isolation in the Western world. Moshe Dayan's resignation showed that a certain concern is beginning to be felt even in the camp of Israeli hawks over the hopelessness of government policy.

But Begin's Biblical arrogance makes him stop at nothing. When the Americans tried to hint to him that Israel's interests demand not the country's increased isolation nor the exacerbation of relations with the Arabs but a search for some compromise, an avalanche of rebukes rained down upon Washington. The commotion and groans in Tel Aviv disconcerted the Washington administration, particularly as it plainly did not want a noisy quarrel with Israel on the eve of the election campaign. Therefore White House strategists decided to direct their main effort toward working on the PLO. Their train of thought was evidently as follows: If we can manage to soften the PLO's position and if the Palestinians agree to a compromise acceptable to Israel, then it will be easier to persuade Tel Aviv to show "good will" and not keep a mortal grip on "Beginomy," which is hateful to the Palestinians.

Perhaps a significant clarification should be made here. Despite sometimes noisy explanations, Israel was and still is a privileged and--if I may put it this way--natural client of the United States. This is why people in Tel Aviv can permit themselves so much--they know there that, whatever turn events might take, Washington will be on Israel's side. Solidarity of "free world" aristocrats, so to speak. The Arabs are another matter.... But they have oil, and therefore it is necessary to tolerate them and smile at them if necessary and deceive them if possible.

Not so long ago the Syrian newspaper AL-BA'TH published a facsimile and translation of a secret letter from Hermann Eilts, former U.S. ambassador to Cairo, to CIA Director Admiral Turner, which had come into its possession. Recommending working with the PLO and "pressuring" it, the ambassador writes: "I personally am ready for an adventure. We should make out that we are yielding a little to the PLO and then, when this bears fruit, refute everything." In other words, it is necessary to promise the Palestinians that if they recognize Israel, their national rights will also be recognized; and when the PLO has done this, take back their promise. I do not know what the admiral replied, but, by all accounts, Washington did not turn down Eilts' recommendation...

Incidentally, the same letter contained another recommendation--regarding "friend" As-Sadat. "If As-Sadat fails to attract new forces capable of insuring the attainment of the aims of American policy," Eilts wrote, "or if he proves to be an obstacle in the way of winning new Arab leaders to the U.S. side, we must get rid of him without the slightest hesitation. In that case we will have to replace As-Sadat as soon as possible with someone who will better serve our interests."

However, if the aim of American policy is not to resolve the Palestinian problem but to get round it at all costs, As-Sadat is perfectly suitable, for the Egyptian-Israeli talks on "autonomy" are aimed at precisely that. The role which Cairo's diplomacy plays at the talks essentially boils down to two elements: to protest sometimes against what "friend Begin" says; and to do what "friend Carter" says.

Now let us see how the United States has "worked" with the PLO. Feeling for contacts began in Vienna, where U.S. Ambassador M. Wolf had three meetings with a representative of the Palestinians. Contacts were moved across the ocean. Then a scandal suddenly erupted, known as the "Young affair."

You will probably need reminding that on 1 September 1975 H. Kissinger, who was then U.S. secretary of state, and Y. Allon, then Israeli Foreign Minister, signed a confidential document. [paragraph continues]

The United States pledged not to recognize the PLO or enter into talks with it until the PLO recognizes Israel's right to exist and voices agreement with Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. Since developing events confronted the United States with the need to hold talks with the PLO and, thus, to recognize it de facto, the search began for a solution which would enable it to get round the 1975 ban.

The Americans tried to persuade the PLO to agree to a Security Council resolution which, in addition to recognizing Israel's right to exist, would contain a vague reference to the Palestinians' "national home." But it did not work out.

In the summer the UN Committee for the Realization of the Palestinian People's Inalienable Rights [as published] prepared a draft resolution in which the Security Council confirmed "that the Palestinian people must be given the opportunity to realize their inalienable rights to self-determination, national independence and sovereignty in Palestine...." The Americans, as was to be expected, considered this formula unacceptable. However, not wishing to embitter the Arabs by using the veto, they began to persuade them to defer submitting the draft to the Security Council; here the Americans promised to draw up their own compromise draft. To judge from press reports, the representatives of the Arab delegations to whom A. Young turned gave him to understand that they might move toward the United States if the PLO did not object. Then on 26 July A. Young set out for the apartment of Abdallah al-Bishara, Kuwaiti representative at the United Nations, having arranged in advance that Zudhi Labib at-Tarazi, PLO observer at the United Nations, would be there too. They talked for no more than 30 minutes. The next morning the Arabs agreed to a month's deferment....

There then began a detective story. It has been said that the CIA tapped Young's telephone; that Israeli intelligence, tailing at-Tarazi, noted Young's visit and was able to eavesdrop on the conversation and that Dayan "himself" reported the visit to employees of the American NEWSWEEK magazine, who began bombarding the State Department with questions. At any rate, Tel Aviv protested loudly. Jewish organizations in the United States raised an uproar. State Department officials were outraged. "The sharks sensed blood in the water," A. Young remarked. On 15 August he resigned.

I am convinced that the U.S. President understands the need for talks with the Palestinians no less than Young does. But Young was in a hurry, made a false start and was therefore obliged to leave. I am also convinced that, despite Tel Aviv's hysterics, Washington will seek to continue contacts with the PLO in one form or another. It will seek this in order to endeavor by hook or by crook to undermine the PLO's position, to split the Palestinians and to persuade them to accept any formula for Palestinian "statehood," but without a Palestinian state.

At the same time Washington is pursuing a policy of weakening the PLO's "rear." In an attempt to set some Arabs against others Carter once remarked that the leaders of Arab countries speak of a Palestinian state only on official occasions for form's sake, so to speak, while they keep silent about it in private conversations. Thus attempts are being made on the one hand to separate the PLO from the Arab states and to isolate it and, on the other hand, to influence the Palestinians precisely through the same Arab states or, at any rate, through certain ones.

Let us sum up. The Near East is approaching the second anniversary of the Jerusalem pilgrimage in a situation far removed from genuine peace. Having given Israel the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in exchange for Sinai, As-Sadat has let fall from his hands the levers for influencing Israel. One hope remained--the United States. Washington will pressure Tel Aviv, he says, and Israel will back down, agree to give up the occupied lands and recognize the Palestinians' rights.

Perhaps As-Sadat really hoped for this. Perhaps he made out that he did. That is not important. What is important is that the Americans do not want an independent Palestinian state. What they want is Near East oil, and therefore they need at least a semblance of a solution to the Palestinian issue. Otherwise the entire Camp David structure will collapse, and the debris could damage the oil pipelines....

It is precisely this, and certainly not the interests of the Palestinians or Egyptians, that is making the Americans roam. This is why they are resorting to diplomatic aerobatics in an attempt to find a way out of the impasse and to reconcile the irreconcilable: to resolve the Palestinian problem without solving it. This is probably regarded as brilliant, refined tactics in Washington. I will not argue. But as regards strategy, it can certainly be said that only Odysseus managed to sail between Scylla and Charybdis.... Times have changed now.

ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS END MEETING IN TUNIS

LD172002 Moscow TASS in English 1854 GMT 17 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, November 17, TASS--The conference of foreign ministers of the Arab countries, which was in session in Tunis since November 15, has closed. The participants in the conference endorsed the draft agenda and preliminary recommendations for the Arab summit meeting scheduled to open here on November 20. Representatives of 20 Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation reaffirmed the resolutions of the proceeding summit meeting in Baghdad, further developed them and outlined plans for joint actions by the Arab states at the next stage.

The ministers called for further stepping up the struggle against the Israeli aggression, for frustrating all conspiracies spearheaded against the national interests of the Arab peoples. They pointed to the necessity of preserving Lebanon's independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty, and stressed the legitimate right of the Palestine resistance movement to carry on its righteous struggle. Summing up the results of the conference, Secretary General of the League of Arab States Chedli Klibi and chairman of the conference, Tunisian Foreign Minister M. Fitouri pointed out the constructive and fruitful character of the discussions held. Addressing the closing plenary meeting, head of the PLO Political Department F. Qaddumi said that the conference had been a fresh successful step in the joint actions by the Arab countries.

The session of the Council of the League of Arab States dicussing current issues pertaining to the activity of this general Arab organisation is continuing in Tunis upon completion of the conference.

LEBANESE 'SEPARATISTS', ISRAELIS CONTINUE PROVOCATIONS

LD161500 Moscow TASS in English 1204 GMT 16 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, November 16, TASS--Lebanese separatists, acting on direct instructions of their Tel Aviv masters, continue building up tensions in the south of the country. They brought under artillery and machine-gun fire the populated locality of Tibnin and a number of south Lebanese villages. Combat positions in the territories kept by right-wing conservatives are intensively strengthened and heavy weapons are sent there. According to a report of the Beirut newspaper AL-ATAN large consignments of weapons and ammunitions have been delivered by Bayt Yahun area from Israel. The naval forces of the Israeli aggressors have been displaying heightened activity in recent days. Their naval boats repeatedly tried to approach the south Lebanese coast in the area of the town of Tyre, but were driven off by the fire of the joint forces of the national patriotic movement and the Palestine resistance movement.

ANGOLAN POLITBURO NOTES NATIONAL TASKS, NEED FOR UNITY

LD191035 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[Correspondent V. Volkov dispatch: "Statement by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA]-Labor Party Central Committee Politburo"]

[Text] Luanda, 4 November--Following the proclamation of the People's Republic of Angola our country took important steps to eliminate the hitherto-existing production relations and to create the material and technical base for building a future socialist society, runs a statement by the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee Politburo, published here on the eve of the celebration of the fourth anniversary of the proclamation of the People's Republic of Angola 11 November.

However, the statement points out, a great deal of effort is still required to fulfill the tasks set by the First MPLA-Labor Party Congress and to overcome the financial and economic difficulties which the country is going through. Increasing the level of production and labor productivity is still the main factor in increasing gross national product.

But to achieve this, the Politburo statement says, requires more than mere revolutionary enthusiasm and selflessness on the part of the working masses. The main efforts must be directed toward improving production processes at enterprises, eliminating bureaucracy and instances of indiscipline and combating incompetence and the squandering of the people's resources. Only unconditional fulfilment of these measures will help to insure the embodiment of the party's economic policy. The statement emphasizes the importance of training skilled cadres and improving the planning, accounting and auditing apparatus as essential conditions for struct fulfillment of the national plan--the basic instrument for developing the country along the road to socialism.

The statement points out the importance of creating people's power organs, strengthening the worker-peasant alliance and national unity, and of the struggle against petit bourgeois tendencies, racism, tribalism, demagoguery, the dissemination of slanderous rumors and other negative phenomena.

The defense of our sovereignty and territorial integrity, the document's international section states, remains a subject of our party's constant concern. The MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee Politburo draws the attention of the world public and international organizations to the latest escalation of the Republic of South Africa's armed adventures against Angola mounted from Namibia. These acts by the racists represent a serious threat to peace and security in southern Africa. The statement points out in conclusion the determination of the Angolan people to resist the intrigues of internal and foreign reaction and expresses solidarity with the peoples fighting colonialism and imperialism.

GROMYKO RECEIVES NEW ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR

LD200805 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Reception of Ambassador"]

[Text] A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, received (Nesibu Tayye), newly appointed Ethiopian ambassador to the USSR, on 13 November. The talk passed in the warm, comradely atmosphere characteristic of friendly Soviet-Ethiopian relations.

DPA: KOSYGIN REPORTEDLY SUFFERING FROM HEART ATTACK

ID191434 Hamburg DPA in German 1413 GMT 19 Nov 79 LD

[Text] Moscow--Soviet Premier Aleksey Kosygin suffered a heart attack 3 weeks ago and has been in the hospital since then. This was reported today by reliable Soviet sources in Moscow.

According to this information, Kosygin is in a hospital in the center of Moscow close to the Kremlin where prominent Soviet figures are usually treated. The 75-year-old is suffering from a disease of the coronary vessels, it was also stated. There is no information about the condition of the Soviet premier, nor as yet, is there any confirmation of reports from the West that Kosygin's condition has deteriorated dramatically in the past few days.

Kosygin was last seen in public on 17 October when he saw off the Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad from Moscow airport.

KAPITONOV SPEECH AT KOMSOMOL CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

ID200947 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 15 Nov 79 p 2 LD

[Unattributed report on 14 November speech by I.V. Kapitonov, CPSU Central Committee secretary at the 5th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum: "Educate Young Builders of Communism"]

[Text] Allow me, first of all, to convey cordial greetings and wishes for success from Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The Komsomol Central Committee plenum is today examining a major and important question. The Komsomol's work on the ideological and moral education of Soviet youth is of enormous significance. One can say that the Komsomol's most important mission is to help the party to educate young people in the spirit of communism and involve them in the practical building of a new society.

The vital tasks of the ideological and moral tempering of our younger generation are defined in the 25th CPSU Congress decisions and in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the 18th Komsomol Congress. They are specifically mentioned in the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political-Educational Work." Great attention was devoted at the recent All-Union Conference of Ideological Workers to enhancing the role of the Komsomol in educating the rising generation.

The Komsomol makes a considerable contribution to the ideological and political, labor and moral education of the young generation. It shows its innovation and initiative everywhere and involves millions of young men and women in the nationwide struggle to implement the party's plans.

Today spiritual potential is higher than ever before, Soviet youth's life stance is firmer than ever before, and its educational and cultural standard have increased immeasurably. The complexion of our young generation most graphically embodies all the achievements of the developed socialist society and the Soviet way of life.

It is clear that under these conditions the demands with respect to work with youth are increasing even more. It is essential to make fuller and more productive use of favorable opportunities to form young peoples' scientific and class work outlook and to develop their political consciousness and social activeness.

The Komsomol is fully prepared for work at a level commensurate with the growing tasks. It has grown in number and become stronger organizationally, it has accumulated rich experience in the ideological-political and labor tempering of the young generation, and makes active use of the comprehensive approach to the organization of the entire matter of youth education.

We must strive to insure that each young person has firm class convictions, a Marxist-Leninist world outlook and displays them correctly in all life situations. We must bring up young men and women as true masters of their own country, responsible for its present and future. The vocation in life of Soviet youth is to safeguard and multiply the revolutionary gains and our society's values.

Describing the current situation I.V. Kapitonov noted that our country has embarked on the most crucial, the final, stage of the 10th 5-Year Plan. According to the majority of indicators, the 1979 targets for industry are being successfully fulfilled. Taking account of the unfavorable weather conditions, it can be said that fairly good results have been achieved in agriculture. The working people of Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Moldavia and Orenburgskaya, Owskaya, Khmelnitskaya and other oblasts have gladdened the motherland with their remarkable labor victories. Much is being done to further improve the well-being of the working people. The party's foreign policy course is being realized consistently and purposefully.

Speaking of the Lenin Komsomol's contribution to all spheres of the country's life, it is pleasing to note that over 50,000 Komsomol youth collectives and about 6 million young working people have already fulfilled their pledges for 1979.

It is especially important that the Komsomol enlists young people for participation in resolving the shock tasks of communist construction and stirs them to perform deeds requiring heroism, wide-ranging enterprises and enthusiasm. Komsomol members, and young men and women working on construction sites in the Non-Chernozem Zone, in opening up the riches of Siberia and the Far East, and in building the Baykal-Amur main railroad at Atommash are operating in precisely this way. The Komsomol's patronage of entire territorial industrial complexes enhances its role in our society. This increases the scale of the labor and ideological-moral education of young people.

I.V. Kapitonov went on to dwell on certain problems of the economy. Great efforts are required from party, soviet, economic and also Komsomol organizations to insure the increasing preferential development of the power industry, and to bring transport, the fuel industry, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, machine building and chemicals up to scratch. The course remains unchanged toward further boosting agriculture and expanding consumer goods production.

The work conducted by the Komsomol in sectors connected with covering the national economy's growing needs with respect to fuel and energy resources is of great significance. This task is being resolved mainly in those major territorial industrial complexes where the Komsomol sends its emissaries. And everything must be done to insure that young people are profoundly aware of the importance of their labor and that they work in shock fashion and with inspiration.

This is not the first year that the youth campaign for economy and thrift in each collective and at each work station has been under way.

This campaign must be given a greater mass appeal and made more effective. Direct the beam of the "Komsomol spotlight" against wastefulness in the expenditure of fuel and energy, raw materials and other resources. This will produce great benefits for the country, the people and the cause of educating young people.

Recently the Komsomol established its patronage of railroad transport and also of the trade and consumer services sphere. Some 7,500 young men and women were sent on Komsomol travel warrants to organizations of the Ministry of Railways and 250,000 were sent to trade and consumer services enterprises. But there are still many shortcomings in these sectors. They must be eliminated by common efforts. Komsomol patronage of various projects and new construction sites should by no means be limited only to sending young people there.

Together with party, soviet, economic and trade union organs the Komsomol organizations should take pains to insure that young people are retained at the new construction projects better, enter into labor rhythm faster and acquire necessary and interesting professional skills.

We are now faced, I.V. Kaptionov said, by the full magnitude of the tasks of the moral and legal education of the young people. Unfortunately a part of the young people are refusing socially useful labor, they get drunk and violate discipline. Suffice it to say that in industry and construction about half of the slackers are young people. Everyone--party and trade union organizations and enterprise leaders--are obliged to combat such phenomena. And naturally the Komsomol too cannot remain aloof.

Fuller use must be made of the power of labor collectives and their social influence to create an atmosphere of intolerance toward slackers, idlers and slipshod workmen. It is particularly important to step up educational work with the working class' young replacement. Popular wise saying has it: Cherish honor right from childhood. A responsible attitude to his work and to observing the regulations should be inculcated in each young workers from his first steps in working life.

Work with juveniles is yet another field of activity where the Komsomol can exert its influence fully. There are a considerable number of Komsomol organizations which do a great deal of useful work in this field. For example in Leningrad the Komsomol participated actively in pursuing a large amount of educational work at clubs for children and juveniles, special military sports camps, and extensive use is made of other forms of work with adolescents. And the results are obvious. The crime level among juveniles in the city is one of the lowest in the country.

A number of other Komsomol organizations are also working well in this direction: those of Gorkiy, Novosibirsk and Dnepropetrovsk. The Komsomol Central Committee should generalize the best experience and make it the property of all Komsomol organizations.

The development of a high political culture in each young citizen, the education of juveniles, young men and women in the spirit of respect for Soviet laws and the norms of communist morality: These are tasks of great state significance.

Under conditions where ideological antagonism is growing more acute in the world arena the role of the Komsomol is increased still further as an active force in combatting bourgeois ideology. The Komsomol's combat task is to form in our young people the ability to oppose the influence of hostile ideas and wage an uncompromising offensive against them. Young citizens of the land of soviets must carry everywhere the truth about the Soviet way of life, actively propagate the values of our ideology and morality, the ideas of the friendship of peoples, and the peace-loving principles of socialism.

Young people must be educated in the revolutionary, combat and labor traditions of the party and people and in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and proletarian internationalism. To this end, make fuller use of the mighty emotional and cognitive strength of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's remarkable work: "Malaya Zemlya","Rebirth" and "The Virgin Lands".

The CPSU Central Committee orients the party organizations toward the further strengthening of the leadership of the Komsomol's ideological-educational and organizational activity. The work of communists in the Komsomol is of great significance. They are required to strengthen the ties between the Komsomol committees and party organizations and consistently pursue the party line in all sectors of work with young people, develop the Komsomol's independent [samodeyatelnyy] nature and increase its activity and militancy in all matters.

The leading and most conscientious and trained part of the Komsomol considers it a supreme honor to enter the ranks of Lenin's party. Since the 23d CPSU Congress the number of Komsomol members among those accepted as candidates for party membership has doubled and is now 73.4 percent. Thanks to constant replenishment from among the ranks of the Komsomol the Communist Party is growing stronger and gathering new, fresh forces. It is a monolithic fusion of revolutionary experience and political maturity, inexhaustible energy and youthful enthusiasm.

Our country is on the threshold of the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birthday. The 26th Communist Party congress is approaching. I.V. Kapitonov expressed confidence that young people, just like the entire Soviet people, will greet these outstanding events with new achievements in labor, study and executing military duty.

KOMSOMOL CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM REPLACES SECRETARY

LD191525 [Editorial Report] Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 15 November 1979 frontpages a 1,000-word "Information Report" on the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee plenum held in Moscow on 14 November 1979. The report notes that:

"The plenum relieved A.P. Derevyanko of his duties as All-Union Komsomol Central Committee secretary and Bureau member on his election as secretary of Novosibirskiy CPSU Obkom.

"The plenum elected Yu.A. Deragausov, [currently] secretary of Rostov-na-Dony CPSU Gorkom and member of the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee, as Komsomol Central Committee secretary and Bureau member."

UKRAINIAN SUPREME SOVIET CONVENED FOR 12 DECEMBER

AU190941 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 11 Nov 79 p 1 AU

[Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium decree convening Supreme Soviet session]

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves to convene the 11th Session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the Ninth Convocation on 12 December 1979 in the city of Kiev.

[Signed] A. Vatchenko, chairman, and Ya. Kolotuldha, secretary of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The city of Kiev, 6 November 1979.

OFFICIAL URGES TIGHTER GAS CONSUMPTION DISCIPLINE; FINES

LD191115 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 2 LD

[Article by A. Voytenko, chief of the USSR State Inspectorate for Gas Supervision [Gosgaznadzor] under the rubric "Strict Accounting for Fuel and Energy": "Expending Gas Thriftily"]

[Text] In last year's extremely harsh winter, despite the strenuous work of power and gas industry workers, oil industry workers and miners there were instances of fuel supply interruptions. Here it was frequently the municipal and consumer service enterprises and the population which suffered.

In preparing for the new winter the enterprises and organizations of the Ministry of the Gas Industry performed a large amount of work on the repair of gas mains, compressor stations and wellhead facilities. New gas transportation capacities have been commissioned. The gas industry workers have overfulfilled the plan targets for pumping gas into underground reservoirs.

But not all questions have yet been definitively resolved. As is well known, supplying municipal and consumer service consumers and the population with gas during cold spells can only be done by removing gas from the underground reservoirs and transferring industrial enterprises to reserve types of fuel.

This year the volume of gas in underground reservoirs has been increased to 18 billion cubic meters. It is these stocks which must serve primarily to supply municipal and consumer service enterprises in cold spells. But things are somewhat different in practice. A large proportion of the gas stocks created are distributed among consumers in advance, on a planned basis. Experience suggests that the gas pumped into underground reservoirs must be regarded only as a reserve for particularly cold days.

To satisfy fully the gas requirements of municipal and consumer service enterprises and the population it is essential during particularly cold periods to switch to other types of fuel those industrial enterprises where this is technically feasible. To this end so-called regulation schedules are compiled which, depending on the outside air temperature, provide for different levels of reduction in the dispatch of gas to enterprises with reserve fuel. These schedules must be coordinated with the energy-supplying organizations of the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification.

Unfortunately, at some enterprises work in preparing for releasing gas to municipal and domestic consumers is badly performed. For instance, Comrade L. Melnikov, acting manager of the Belgorodenergo Rayon Power Administration, refused to coordinate the schedule, giving as his reason the fact that the PTVM-50 type boilers installed at the Belgorod TETs could not operate on fuel oil. In reality the operation of boilers of this type when working on fuel oil is possible, as is borne out by the experience of operating such boilers in regions of Siberia and the Far East.

The reasons why the Bashenergo Regional Power Administration refused to coordinate schedules are even more incomprehensible. Comrade Sh. Abdurashitov, the manager of Bashenergo, probably forgets that for the majority of power stations under his control USSR Gosplan has prescribed fuel oil as the basic type of fuel while the use of gas is envisaged only in summer time. The leadership of the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification must draw the necessary conclusions and take relevant steps.

The experience of regulating gas supplies in the winter period shows that compiling schedules is undoubtedly an important matter but it is even more important to observe strictly the established procedures for using gas. Every enterprise is prescribed a definite daily gas consumption norm and under no circumstances must it be exceeded.

But, as a check performed by the USSR Gosgaznadzor organs has shown, about 500 enterprises (almost 20 percent of the number studied) allowed the overexpenditure of gas and 160 enterprises consumed gas without having the funds to pay for it. For instance, the Cherepovets Metallurgical Plant, with a plan of 4.9 million cubic meters a day, on individual days took up to 6 million cubic meters. Last winter Kiev's enterprises over expended gas by as much as 1 million cubic meters a day.

The violation of gas consumption procedures has led to the disruption of normal supplies for municipal and consumer service enterprises in a number of regions of the country and has made heat supplies to apartment blocks, schools, hospitals and kindergartens more difficult.

Violators are fined for regularly surpassing the established limits on gas expenditure. In the fourth quarter of 1978 alone, the industrial enterprises of Voroshilovgradskaya Oblast were fined a total of over R1.5 million for the overexpenditure of gas, and this included the Kommunarsk Metallurgical Plant which was fined R1.2 million. In the first quarter of this year fines throughout the oblast totaled R650,000, including about R200,000 for the above-mentioned plant. In Yaroslavskaya Oblast enterprises like the USSR Ministry of Light Industry's porcelain factory and the USSR Construction Materials Industry Ministry's Keramzit Plant were each fined 5 or 6 times over the course of the year. Yet this measure to influence the industrial enterprises is having no actual effect.

This is explained by the fact that it is not a specific person but the enterprise as a whole which is fined. In this case money is simply transferred from one state pocket to another. From our viewpoint, the USSR Gosgaznadzor organs should be given the right to impose fines on officials guilty of violating gas consumption discipline. This measure would make it possible substantially to enhance gas consumption discipline, especially in the fall and winter period.

DIRECTORS COUNCILS CAN LINK SECTOR, TERRITORIAL MANAGEMENT

LD191027 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Nov 79 p 2 LD

[Gennadiy Yastrebtsov article under rubric "Economist's 100 Lines": "To the Directors Council"]

[Text] Our country's economy has reached a high degree of concentration and specialization. It is now important, as the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on improving planning and the economic mechanism points out, to create a reliable link between the growth of capacities in individual sectors of the national economy and comprehensive regional development. It is a question, above all, of a sensible combination of the sector and territorial principles of management. There are considerable possibilities for this. One of them is to set up sector territorial councils of directors within industry which would coordinate the work of allied enterprises of different subsectors in one region.

This experience already exists in the union ministries of instrument making, automation equipment and control systems, the electrical equipment industry and certain others.

How is their work organized in practice? In the northwest of the country, for example, in Leningradskaya, Pskovskaya, Arkhangelskaya and Novgorodskaya oblasts, there are several dozen associations, enterprises and scientific research organizations of the electrical equipment industry.

Is it possible to insure that all enterprises in the region work in a stable and steady manner and with clear-cut rhythm?

"This is precisely one of our chief tasks," B.I. Fomin, chairman of the territorial directors council of the northwest economic region and general director of the Leningrad Elektrosila Association, said. "Not all local needs and cares can be seen from the ministry, and the main effort of central management organs is aimed at resolving major, long-term problems. Locally it is more convenient to have capable directors councils which will collectively tackle questions such as the removal of bottlenecks in the planning of enterprises' material and technical supplies, help raise economic efficiency and output quality, create objects of the production and social infrastructure through common efforts, exchange experience of labor organization and management...."

For the time being territorial directors councils are mainly consultative. However, the positive results of their work indicate that they could take on more. Ministry and department leaders and local party organs should look more closely at the work of directors councils and give all possible support to their initiative directed against a narrow departmental and parochial approach to national economic management. Duplication of one and the same questions are an important link on the way to creating an efficient system for the management of territorial industrial complexes, in which our economy's future lies.

PRAVDA EMPHASISES IMPORTANCE OF FUEL-ECONOMY EFFORT

LD191033 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 November 1979 publishes on page 2 a 2,400-word "Economic Review" by Vasiliy Parfenov under the heading "Heat for the People," on fuel-economy measures. While noting that there is no danger "in the foreseeable future" of an "'oil famine'" in the USSR, he pointed out that fuel is becoming more expensive, "oil and gas are being discovered farther and farther away from the place of consumption" and demand is increasing, thus giving rise to the need for economical use of fuel. Parfenov discusses measures to save fuel in transportation, and also to avoid waste in extracting fuel. "More progressive vehicles" must be manufactured instead of obsolete, wasteful models, and it is important to introduce a "simple, effective fuel-economy incentive system which can be understood by millions of people." He also outlines measures to save fuel in domestic heating "without reducing comfort," such as by insulation. He concludes that "we must economize everywhere, but not at the cost of the working people's interests."

SECOND STAGE OF URENGOY-CHELYABINSK GAS PIPELINE COMPLETED

LD191701 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent S. Vtorushin: "Urengoy Gas on Stream"]

[Text] Tyumen, 15 October--Construction workers laying the Urengoy-Chelyabinsk gas pipeline have given the country a wonderful gift on the eve of the October holiday. The pipeline's 1,750-kilometer second stage has been completed 2 months ahead of schedule.

The new gas pipeline is among the country's most important installations. Reliable fuel supplies to many industrial enterprises and centers were dependent upon its commissioning. Substantial forces were concentrated on the construction of the gas main. In addition to more than 1,000 kilometers of marshland, around 150 water barriers, including such rivers as the Ob and Irtysh, had to be overcome. Despite the difficulties the underground main was built in half the normal time.

NEW TYUMENSKAYA OBLAST OIL DEPOSIT DISCOVERED

LD191703 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 16 Oct 79 p 2 LD

[Correspondent V. Noskov report: "One More Deposit"]

[Text] Megion, Tyumenskaya Oblast--Geologists of the Megion oil-prospecting expedition have discovered a new deposit. It lies between Surgut and Nizhnevartovsk. This will considerably facilitate exploitation. The productive layer lies at a depth of just over 2,000 meters, and drillers will use the progressive multiple drilling method to construct operational wells.

BREZHNEV CONGRATULATES AVIATION WORKERS ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS

LD122122 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1517 GMT 12 Nov 79 LD

["Leonid Brezhnev's Greeting to Aviation Workers"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 12 November, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev today greeted the workers of Soviet Aeroflot on fulfilling ahead of schedule their planned tasks for 4 years of the 1976-1980 5-year period in using aviation for the national economy.

Civil aviation, the greetings notes, is playing an ever greater role in the development of our country's economy. The successes achieved are the result of selfless labor by aviation workers, great organizational and political-educational work by party, trade union, Komsomol organizations and leading cadres, as well as broadly developed socialist competition--the great force behind communist construction.

Leonid Brezhnev particularly noted the merits of agricultural aviation, which is becoming an important part of the integrated development of agriculture and which plays a great role in the struggle for increasing output.

Over 90 million hectares of agricultural lands are in the sphere of Aeroflot's activity. Pilots apply mineral fertilizers to the soil, fight against harmful plants, protect the soil from erosion, carry out defoliation of cotton plants and sow rice. The plane and helicopter have become as common in villages as the tractor or combine. Almost all kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the USSR make use of the services of the airmen. Using their own funds, they have built hard-surface runways which allow work to start at optimum agro-technical times such as early spring when ground machinery is immobilized by slush.

Overall, aviation carries out more than 100 different tasks in branches of the USSR national economy. It is of great importance in prospecting for and exploiting natural resources and in mastering remote areas of the North, Siberia and the Far East, the Arctic and Antarctic. Planes and helicopters are successfully used in laying gas and oil pipelines, in building railways and electrical transmission lines, in drawing up maps of the country's territory and protecting forest resources.

The CPSU Central Committee, the greetings note, is firmly convinced that the workers of civil aviation will continue to strive persistently for wider and more effective use of aviation in the national economy.

IMPORTANCE OF KAZAKHSTAN'S CASPIAN SEA SHELF RESERVES NOTED

LD191615 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 11 November 1979 publishes on page 2 a 1,300-word article by E. Turkebayev, director of the Kazakh SSR Gosplan Scientific Research Economics Institute for Planning and Norms, and S. Shalabayev, chief of the section for problems in the development of mineral resources and exploitation of nature, under the heading "Caspian Shelf Reserves" and datelined Alma-Ata. The article notes the importance of oil deposits in Kazakhstan's Caspian Sea shelf, where prospecting work has revealed that there is "real potential for preparing for commercial exploitation of significant oil and gas resources" at shallower depths than Azerbaijan's Caspian shelf and in "good geological conditions." The authors ask "why is prospecting work taking place so slowly?" and note that the republic's contribution to the country's fuel supplies "could be much greater." They state that an "independent offshore prospecting drilling administration" should be set up within the Kaspmorneftegaz Association to insure the "rapid development of oil and gas reserves in Kazakhstan," and that scientific work should be strengthened.

KIRGIZ SSR MOTOR TRANSPORT MINISTER KHILIMONCHIK RETIRES

LD131405 Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 24 Oct 79 p 2 LD

[Unattributed report: "Diary"]

[Text] The Kirgiz SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Comrade Vladimir Petrovich Khilimonchik from his duties as Kirgiz SSR minister of motor transport and highways in connection with his retirement.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 19 NOVEMBER

LD200456 [Editorial Report LD] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 19 November. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

The field workers of our country have completed sowing winter crops. This year seeds of new varieties were used on tens of thousands of hectares. In the future they will be the primary seeds in many fields. Our plant breeders have prepared and adapted to various parts of the country almost 130 new types to replace the old varieties and hybrids of grain crops. They are all distinguished by higher yield and resistance to the caprices of weather. Two new varieties of winter wheat--Krasnodarskaya--46 and (Severokubanka)--have appeared in the Northern Caucasus. They are both able to insure a yield of up to 70 quintals per hectare of high quality grain. It is proposed to use them in the future on an area of 800,000 hectares. An even more extensive area--no less than 1 million hectares--will be devoted in the coming years to the (Severodonskaya) winter wheat variety. The plant breeders have given it special resistance to frosts. In the northern and eastern parts of the country, where the soil is poorer and the winters more severe, winter rye, the traditional Russian crop, is being grown. This year farms have been given the first tons of seed of two new varieties of winter rye--Voskhod-1 and Chulpan--which are capable of a yield of up to 40 quintals per hectare. In time these varieties should occupy no less than 1 million hectares. Specialists at the USSR Ministry of Agriculture suggest that the country's grain harvest will grow by 7 million tons by 1985 by means of the application of new high-yield varieties. (0100 GMT)

Heavy snow has fallen on Kazakhstan in the past few days. Many farms have started snow retention work. It is planned to carry out snow retention on 30 million hectares in the republic this year. (0830 GMT)

Nearly 70,000 tons of cotton remain to be delivered in Tadzhikistan to fulfill pledges. In the country as a whole, about 8.4 million tons of cotton has been picked to date. This is 96 percent of the plan. Almost 400,000 tons more has been procured than at the same time last year. Good weather is assisting the work. Turkmenia has overfulfilled the plan for the sale of fine-staple cotton to the state. In Uzbekistan, the state plan has been met by Syrdarinskaya Oblast. Above-plan picking continues in the Karakalpakskaya ASSR, and Bukharskaya, Kashkadarinskaya and Tashkentskaya oblasts. Khorezmskaya, Dzhizakskaya and Surkhandarinskaya oblasts are close to meeting this plan. (1100 GMT)

LATVIA OVERFULFILLS PLANS FOR POTATOES, VEGETABLES, FRUIT

LD161100 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Nov 79 LD

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported that Latvian farm workers have overfulfilled their plan for sales to the state of potatoes, vegetables and fruit. The republic's farms have supplied procurement points, trade organizations and processing industry enterprises with 276,000 tons of potatoes, 111,000 tons of vegetables and 31,000 tons of fruit. Collective and state farms have fully supplied themselves with seeds. Preparations for spring sowing and wintering of stock have begun.

GENERAL TOLUBKO INTERVIEWED ON ROCKET FORCES

LD201165 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Nov 79 p 2 LD

[PRAVDA correspondent interview with Army Gen V.F. Tolubko, commander in chief of the Strategic Rocket Forces and USSR Deputy Defense Minister: "In Constant Combat Readiness"]

[Text] On the eve of the missile and artillery troop's holiday, Hero of Socialist Labor Army General V.F. Tolubko, commander in chief, Strategic Rocket Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, answered a PRAVDA correspondent's questions.

[Question] This year the Strategic Rocket Forces are 20 years old. You are one of those who took part in their formation. Please remind us how it happened.

[Answer] Yes, the decision to create a new branch of the Soviet Armed Forces--the Strategic Rocket Forces--was taken in December 1959. It was an enforced measure. Reactionary imperialist circles were trying to slow down socialism's development and the entire world revolutionary process. The imperialist powers were increasing their military budgets and building up their armaments arsenals. Their anti-Soviet blocs had constructed bases and strongpoints close to our borders.

The CPSU and the Soviet Government were obliged to take appropriate steps to strengthen our motherland's defense might. The more so since the socialist economy's successes and the outstanding achievements of our own science and technology made it possible to do so.

The creation and establishment of the new branch of the armed forces took place under the direct leadership of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government. Outstanding credit [vydayushchiyesya zaslugi] here goes to Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

Missile troops veterans recall the difficulties which we encountered initially in organizing and establishing our troops. After all, almost all of us had to begin at the beginning, to learn on the job, to master previously unknown specialties, study complex equipment and at the same time form new units, train and educate personnel, see to the construction of launch sites, housing and consumer service premises and training classrooms and raise the combat readiness of the units and subunits.

Inheriting their combat traditions from the artillery troops, the Rocket Forces at the same time, as it were, symbolically took over the baton from them as the mighty, shock fire force. That is why, since 1964, we have had a single common holiday.

[Question] Yes, that is so, but nonetheless a missile and a gun are different weapons....

[Answer] Undoubtedly, missile weapons have immeasurably greater combat potential. Their emergence caused a real revolution in warfare and made heightened demands on personnel.

Above all, the Strategic Rocket Forces are forces in a state of permanent combat readiness. The Strategic Rocket Forces stand constantly on combat guard, which means fulfilling a task of special importance requiring of every crew member maximum efficiency, unremitting attention and the highest vigilance.

It must not be forgotten that ours are collective weapons. Therefore harmonious, efficient action, skill, physical fitness, soldierly friendship and the desire always to help a comrade are particularly essential for our personnel.

Finally, our weapons embody the latest achievements of science and technology. They cannot be mastered without knowledge in the spheres of automation and remote control, electronics and ballistics, nuclear physics, mathematics and chemistry.... Not surprisingly, the overwhelming majority of missile soldiers have secondary of higher education. Our officers are high-class specialists, masters of missile technology.

But artillery--rocket-launching and conventional--has not lost its significance. It remains an important means of warfare. After all, modern guns and mortars have come a long way in their development. They have greater firepower, range and accuracy than in the last war and are reliable and mobile.

[Question] The Strategic Rocket Forces began their history in peace time, yet missile forces servicemen have received combat awards. Please describe some of them.

[Answer] Servicemen of all branches of the armed forces perform exploits in peace time. There are also such men in our forces.

Many Rocket Forces servicemen have been awarded combat orders for selfless military labor, for mastering new equipment and for high results in combat and political training. We also have heroes of socialist labor.

I want to name Eng Lt V. G. Basov, posthumously awarded the Order of the Red Star for courage and valor in the execution of his military duty. A product of the Komsomol, a graduate of the 439th Moscow Secondary School, after graduating from the higher military school he came to serve in a missile unit. While working with complex combat equipment, at the cost of his own life V. G. Basov eliminated a fault which had arisen and saved his comrades in arms. The name of the valiant Rocket Forces officer was recorded in the Komsomol Central Committee Book of Honor and, by a decision of the Moscow City Soviet, the former Third Frezernaya Street in Moscow was renamed Basov Street.

Pvt Nikolay (?Zhelmaya) was awarded the "For Valor' medal for courage and valor displayed in arresting some particularly dangerous criminals. Komsomol member Bushuyev saved an important project by putting out a forest fire. He fulfilled his duty honorably and selflessly to his last breath. Pvt Dmitriy Fedorovich Bushuyev was posthumously awarded the Order of the Red Star.

[Question] What marks this jubilee year for the Rocket Forces, and how are the missile and artillery forces greeting their holiday?

[Answer] The present training year has been for us a period of further raising units' and subunits' combat readiness and improving military skill.

It has been a marked also by extensive socialist competition. Winners include the servicemen of the missile unit which initiated the competition, commanded by Lt Col M. Kolosov. On the results of the training year this unit has again--for the eighth consecutive time--won the title of excellent unit.

The majority of servicemen here have class qualifications, and over 70 percent are first- or second-grade specialists. Some 37 percent of the officers are masters of missile weaponry.

The missile troops and artillerymen of the units and subunits commanded by officers V. Kulikov, A. Lyakhnenko, S. Matveyev, V. Starkov, V. Yamatin and others have arrived at their holiday with excellent results.

Preparation for the new training year is now ending among the troops. As they prepare a fitting greeting for the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth and 35th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War, missile troops and artillerymen are fully determined to continue to enhance their combat readiness and improve their military skill.

[Question] There is now much talk in the West about the so-called "Soviet military threat," and calls are being made for the buildup of NATO's nuclear potential and the modernization of medium-range weapons in West Europe. What can you say in this connection?

[Answer] I can say that, by brandishing the bogey of the "Soviet threat, the opponents of the relaxation of tension are trying to justify in the eyes of the world public and their countries' populations a headlong growth of military spending and the constant buildup of their armaments and to conceal the profits of the monopolies which make fortunes out of weapons production.

Suffice it to recall that U.S. military appropriations total more than $140 billion in the current fiscal year. Implementation has begun of a program for creating mobile missile complexes, primarily involving cruise missiles, and other measures are being carried out to improve strategic forces.

Constant attempts are being made to increase the number of delivery vehicles for nuclear weapons in West Europe.

This is going on at a time when the leading circles of the United States and the other NATO countries are well aware of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's statement that, in the last 10 years, the number of nuclear weapon delivery vehicles on the territory of the European part of the Soviet Union has not been increased by a single missile or a single aircraft. On the contrary, the number of medium-range missile launchers, like the yield of these missiles' nuclear warheads, has actually decreased somewhat.

The Soviet Union is indeed modernizing medium-range nuclear missile weapons which have been in service for several decades now. Nevertheless, they remain medium-range missiles and, of course, cannot reach U.S. territory, as the most irresponsible Pentagon figures try to claim. At the same time, the number of these weapons is being reduced.

Yet, in defiance of common sense, NATO military-political circles are still going on about "dangerous disproportions" in medium-range weapons. Here they fail to take into account the fact that hundreds and hundreds of delivery vehicles for U.S. nuclear weapons capable of reaching our country's territory are deployed in Europe. Taking this into account, the NATO countries on the European Continent have a larger number of medium-range nuclear weapons that the Soviet Union. The total number amounts to about 1,500 units. Nevertheless, they are insisting on so-called upgrading of armaments, which they want to present as a "modernization" of their nuclear arsenal in Europe.

But what lies behind this "modernization"?

In addition to the aforementioned medium-range and forward-based weapons, the United States is trying to cram a further 100 new Pershing II missiles and about 500 cruise missiles into NATO's Europe nuclear missile arsenal.

Is it possible to call that "modernization"?

Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, USSR defense minister, has stressed that the implementation of this plan would have the aim not merely of supplementing the existing U.S., British and French forward-based weapons in West Europe, but of thereby changing the strategic situation in Europe in NATO's favor. The Soviet Union would be forced to respond to such a strengthening of NATO's nuclear missile potential by taking appropriate measures.

Desiring to promote military detente on the European Continent, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev declared in Berlin: "We are prepared to reduce in comparison with the present level the number of medium-range nuclear weapons deployed in the western regions of the Soviet Union--but, of course, only in the event that there is no additional deployment of medium-range nuclear weapons in West Europe."

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's answer to the PRAVDA correspondent's question points out that our proposals put foward in Berlin are aimed at advancing the solution of the whole complex of problems of military detente and arms limitation on the European Continent.

These proposals have not been to the taste of those who would like to work toward further stepping up the arms race, especially in the sphere of medium-range nuclear weapons.

We cannot fail to take into account the fact that there are forces in the world interested in fueling tension, and circles nurturing aggressive plans. So the Soviet Union is forced to maintain its defense capability and the armed forces' combat readiness at the level of the present demands.

Like all Soviet soldiers, missile troops and artillerymen are rallied closely around the beloved Communist Party. They are profoundly aware of their patriotic and international duty and are vigilantly guarding the peaceful creative labor of their people and the socialist community countries.